FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces have captured three Iraqi missile bases in Al-Faw and have killed, wounded, or captured some 7,200 Iraqi troops in the course of their latest offensive, Iran announced in a military communique reported by IRNA 12 February. In a related report, the agency claimed that the Iranians have downed 14 Iraqi warplanes and have captured over 150 tanks and personnel carriers since the start of the offensive.

In contrast, an Iraqi commander cited by Voice of the Masses radio stated that the Iraqi III Army Corps defeated another Iranian attack east of Basra the night of 11 February. A military communique broadcast earlier by the radio stated that the III Army Corps had "wiped out the aggressors in the last foothold they had on its right flank," killing 1,978 Iranian troops. Iraqi forces killed 500 Iranians in recapturing Umm al-Rasas Island, the communique stated, and Iraqi warplanes launched further strikes against Iranian targets, including the Ganaveh pipeline intersection. As for the air war, Iraqi military sources cited by INA reported the downing of an Iranian Phantom over the southern front on 12 February.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn briefed visiting PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on Iraq's "success" in crushing the Iranian offensive, Voice of the Masses reported. Meanwhile, the Iraqi defense minister denied Iranian claims about an Iranian "seige" of Al-Faw in a telephone conversation with his Kuwaiti counterpart, INA revealed. Bahrain and Oman likewise denounced the Iranian offensive in official statements reported by WAKH and Muscat radio.

Israel

Welcoming Anatoliy Shcharanskiy in a speech broadcast by IDF radio, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he is "deeply moved" by the attitude of the U.S. people and government toward Israel and the Soviet Jews. The radio also broadcast Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks welcoming Shcharanskiy's deliverance from the "purgatory" of a Soviet jail and urging the Soviet people to "open the gates of your country for the members of the Jewish nation who wish to return to their homeland." In earlier remarks broadcast by IDF radio, Shamir noted that the Soviet Union is expected to release up to seven more "prisoners of Zion," and he said the Soviet Union is trying to buy the sympathy of Western public opinion by freeing individuals.

In a separate development, the Israeli Navy chased and captured a "suspicious" Turkish boat off the Gaza coast, Jerusalem radio reported. The captain was found dead and crew members claimed that he was killed by shots fired by the Israeli Navy during the chase.

Libya-Chad

GUNT forces captured Koro Toro, Kouba Olanga, and Oum Chalouba in northern Chad, AFP reported 12 February, citing a communique from GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei. The communique also "categorically" denied that Libyan forces are participating in the fighting. Ndjamena radio earlier reported that "Libyan invaders" had been "forced out" of Kouba Olanga 11 February. In Tripoli, a JANA editor said that Chadian claims that Libya is "preparing to undertake" military action in Chad are "untruthful" and "cause for ridicule," adding that Libya is committed to noninterference in "this tribal war." Nevertheless, the Libreville radio station Africa No. 1 cited Chadian official sources as saying that Kouba Olanga was attacked by Libyan troops and not by the forces of Goukouni Oueddei.

Lebanon

Sixty-four people have been arrested and charged with terrorism and sabotage, a Lebanese Forces source told Voice of Lebanon radio. The arrests were carried out after people "involved with" former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah began to assemble "sabotage teams," the radio disclosed earlier. The radio claimed that former Lebanese Forces security chief As'ad Shaftari had coordinated the terrorist operations, adding that sources indicated Shaftari met with a Syrian intelligence officer in West Beirut 10 February.

In a subsequent development, Voice of Lebanon reported two people were killed and five wounded in an explosion at the Star Movie Theater in the 'Ayn al-Rummanah area of East Beirut on 12 February. Radio Free Lebanon followed with a report blaming Elie Hybayqah supporters for the explosion, and claiming that 2 women were killed and 14 people wounded.

PDRY

The former interior and deputy security ministers and the former commanders of the Air and Air Defense Force, Navy, and Militia have reportedly been arrested for their involvement in the "recent events," according to Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'* citing a Yemeni source. In a separate development, WAKH cited the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD as reporting that PLO representative in Aden* 'Abbas Zaki was expelled from the PDRY 10 February for "intervening" last month on the side of former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

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South Asia

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Karmal Praises Gorbachev L'HUMANITE Statements

LD120725 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0450 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 11, BAKHTAR — The answers of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the questions of the newspaper *L'HUMANITE* most clearly and explicitly set forth the CPSU's policy at the present stage of the country's development on the threshold of the most important event in the life of the Soviet people "the 27th Congress of the CPSU, *PRAVDA* and TASS correspondents were told by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council. The statements by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev on problems of present-day international development, in common with his preceding statements on that subject are permeated with concern for peace. Characteristic of them is a deep-going political analysis, constructive approach and historical realism.

It is with special attention and interest that we have received the evaluation given by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee of the situation in Afghanistan and around it. It gives an accurate analysis of the causes of outbreak of the conflict and ways for its settlement. Mikhail Gorbachev's pronouncements are consonant with the strivings and wishes of our people.

Now we in the DRA are successfully advancing on the road of resolving the long-ripe problems of the country's internal development.

Broad sections of the people, including representatives of tribes, the clergy, intelligentsia and business circles are ever more actively drawing into that process. Under way is a consolidation of the national patriotic forces, which can make a contribution to starting peaceful life.

Special attention is devoted to the development of the countryside, since the rural dwellers make an overwhelming majority of the country's population, the Afghan leader continued. The other DPPA meeting [words indistinct] in Kabul, of party and government executives on questions of the party's policy in the field of agriculture. The meeting outlined a whole package of measures directed at improving the situation in that, actually, the main branch of Afghanistan's economy.

I would wish to note specially that the course of land and water [words indistinct] that the agrarian issue is being resolved in Afghanistan in the interests of the working peasantry.

Former farmhands get their own land plots, cooperatives are established, but the [words indistinct].

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan enjoys growing trust between the working people and true patriots of the homeland with every passing day.

It is understandable, however, and this was particularly explicitly emphasized by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev that not everything in that field depends on us. The main cause of the remaining tensions has been and is interference of outside forces, which have a stake in its continuing and broadening, above all Pakistan and the USA. As far as the DRA is concerned, we are ready for a constructive political dialogue, including the final coordination of all documents making political settlement. This has been convincingly shown by the last round of the Geneva talks.

Yet a decision on these issues, Babrak Karmal said, should be drawn up in the course of direct talks with the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, as it is the sole and plenipotentiary representative of the Afghan people.

PDPA Political Bureau Discusses Elections

LD111518 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, 10 Feb (BAKHTAR) — The PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau discussed the results of the first phase of the election to local organs of state power and DRA administration and subsequent tasks in this regard. It has approved a resolution, the summary of which is as follows:

The PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau assessed the election to the local organs of state power and administration, which began on 3 August 1985 and took place for the first time in the Afghan history, as a great historical event in the political development of the DRA and the democratization of the socio-political life of the country.

The first phase of these elections in Kabul city and in Kabul, Badakhshan, Balkh, Nimroz, and Nangarhar Provinces, which were held in completely free atmosphere in consideration of the traditions of the people, were successfully completed with festivities by the local people. There was also moral and material help for the people in accordance with the norms and spirit of the law.

The elections process was consistently assessed by the High Commission for the Convocation of the Elections and the relevant party committees; necessary assistance was rendered to ensure the precise organization and preparations of the elections.

The people everywhere with fervour and enthusiasm welcomed and congratulated their representatives and expressed their readiness to implement the policy of the party and state and maintain peace and security in the country.

Despite the difficulties created by the counterrevolutionaries, some 90 percent of the people were eligible to vote, including in the tribal areas, and took part in the elections electing 4,120 delegates in 281 tribal assemblies, which is a great stride toward broadening the social bases of the revolutionary power in the localities. The political bases of the tribal assemblies are constituted by workers, peasants, and artisans, whose share is 54.8 percent in the new composition.

Spiritual leaders, national traders, capitalists, and middle class intellectuals are included in the elected representatives of the people. This indicates their active participation in the construction of a democratic society.

Some 40.8 percent of the delegates are PDPA members, which shows the confidence of the people in the party and the relations

between the party and the masses of the people. The composition of the tribal assemblies and councils accords with the national structure of the relevant localities. Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Turkmens, Nurestanis, and other nationalities are included in the structure of the tribal assemblies.

The elections of the Tribal Assembly Executive Committees were organized in a principled democratic manner at all levels. The demands and requests of the people were considered and assessed in the tribal assemblies and appropriate measures were adopted concerning their implementation.

The results of the first phase of the elections showed that there have been some shortcomings and defects in the convocation and holding of the elections. In some localities necessary attention was not paid to explaining the law of local organs and the election law and the importance of the people's sovereignty, and the election campaign was not sufficiently reflected in the mass media.

Some ministries, departments, and social organizations did not do their necessary share in the convocation of the elections to maintain economic, transport, and health plans and to meet of the needs of the people.

The PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau approves:

1. The result of the first phase of the elections for the establishment of tribal assemblies, local councils of people's representatives, and their executive committees are assessed as positive. The most important political task for the year beginning 21 March, and the most honorable task of the PDPA and the DRA Revolutionary Council is the successful convocation and conclusion of the elections in order to broaden the social pillars of the people's sovereignty, to normalize the situation in the country, to consolidate party contacts with the masses of the people, and to attract the various classes and strata of people to the defense of the revolution and to foiling aggression.

The High Commission for the Preparation and Convocation of Elections, and the party, social, and economic committees and organizations should take necessary measures to complete the elections of the local organs and state power administration by the end of 1986 in all the villages and localities of the country.

The composition of the High Commission for the Preparation and Convocation of Elections for the local organs and state power administration is confirmed.

2. The officials responsible for the zones, and party and social committee and organizations should consider as a base the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum's decisions and the statement by the DRA Revolutionary Council dated 13 November 1985 on the organizational work and convocation of the elections. And in order to broaden the social pillars of the people's sovereignty, the officials should ensure the new approach, and while establishing tribal assemblies, councils, and their executive committees should take into consideration the ratio of workers, peasants, tradesmen, intellectuals, capitalists, small traders, armed forces officials, theologians, youths, representatives of the classes, strata, and nationalities of the tribes and nations of the country.

The elections campaign should proceed together with the implementation of economic measures to provide primary goods for the people, chemical fertilizers, seeds, health cooperation, repairs, schools, and hospitals and establish irrigation systems and other necessities for the people.

In appointing the candidates for the tribal assemblies, councils, and executive committees, the views and suggestions of the local elders and influential people should be used, especially in the villages.

3. The Central Council of the National Fatherland Front, of the trade unions, of the Democratic Women of Afghanistan [DWOA] and of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan [DYOA] Central Committee, together with the party committees should take the necessary measures with regard to enhancing the role and activities of their local organizations for the preparation and holding of the election campaign. The election campaign should be used in order to maintain links with the people, for growth in the ranks, and for strengthening the local organizations' participation in the cause of uniting and mobilizing the patriots. It should be used to make efforts so that the representatives who have been elected to the tribal assemblies and councils should always go among the toilers, and take care of their interests and needs, and to explain to them in simple words the policy of the revolutionary party and government. They should expose the criminal actions of the counterrevolutionary elements and they should be a reliable bastion of the party and state among the people.

4. The DRA Council of Ministers should take the necessary measures to improve further the leadership of the local organs and state power administration and study the issue of transferring certain executive duties to the executive committees of the tribal assemblies and councils.

Specific and practical measures should be adopted so that local representatives and village chiefs use state grants to meet the material and technical needs of the villages' executive committees.

5. The ministers, chairmen of state committees, and responsible officials in social organizations should insure the active participation of their organs in preparing and holding elections and in solving ideological, economic, and social needs.

The need to provide skilled cadres and experts for executive committees should be studied in light of the new requirements of the organs of people's power and the necessary measures should be adopted and put into practice within 3 months.

6. The strengthening of the armed forces, and especially the implementation of duties regarding conscription, the expansion of the influence of people's power in residential areas, the organization of security and social order, and solving economic and social problems in the interests of the toilers and of the state are regarded as the urgent task of the newly elected tribal assemblies and their executive committees.

The provincial, district, subdistrict, city, and ward party committees should constantly improve the party leadership in the tribal

assemblies and councils and in their executive committees and should cooperate with them to learn new work methods. They should get the necessary assistance to study and assess the demands of the toilers and inhabitants. The cooperation and assistance of these organizations, which are active in the relevent tribal assemblies and councils, should be exploited to meet these demands. Party members who have been elected to the tribal assemblies and councils should serve as a good example in the implementation of their duties. Party members should pay attention to training cadres and strengthening their apparatus with worthy and effective cadres.

7. The propaganda, propagation, and education departments of the PDPA central Committee, the army and sarandoy political department, and the provincial party committees should send propaganda teams equipped with the necessary technical facilities, charts, and granhs to the localities before the start of the elections. In addition to party members and members of social organizations, efforts should be made to include representatives of the theologians, nationalities, tribes, and other local influential people. Verbal and visual propaganda should be used and the elections should be held with spectacular ceremonies.

The mass media should actively reflect the election campaign process, the initial duties of the newly elected organs of people's power, and their role in performing revolutionary duties.

Mujahidin Claim Downing Five Fighter Planes

GF111301 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Western diplomats in Islamabad stated today that the Afghan mujahidin have shot down five fighter planes in the Province of Jowzjan in southern Afghanistan. The mujahidin also killed about 90 communist soldiers during attacks they launched on eight positions near Herat in western Afghanistan over the past 2 weeks.

The sources indicated that among those who were killed near Herat were a number of Soviet soldiers. The sources added that hospitals in Kabul are treating large numbers of those were wounded during the fighting which took place between the mujahidin and the Soviet forces in the strategic valley of Panjsher, north of the Afghan capital.

Spokesman on Sri Lanka, Afghanistan Briefings

BK111512 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1437 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 11 February, 1986, the official spokesman made the following statement: On his return from Colombo after brief period of consultations, high commissioner of Sri Lanka Mr. Bernard Tilakratna, called on Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari this morning. High commissioner explained to foreign secretary position of his government in regard to some basic issues of ethnic problem. In this regard he told the foreign secretary very categorically that his government was not seeking a military solution. Sri Lanka remains fully committed to seeking a political solution acceptable to all concerned. The foreign secretary and high commissioner will be meeting again later this week.

The spokesman also told newsmen that during his recent visit to Kabul, secretary (West), Dr. J.S. Teja called on Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishtmand, Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost and senior officials of Afghanistan Foreign Ministry. Discussions covered bilateral relations, situation in the region, the Nonaligned Movement and the UN secretary general's initiatives towards a political settlement.

Dr. Taja reaffirmed India's support to independence, integrity and nonaligned status of Afghanistan as well as its support for a political settlement on the basis of noninterference and nonintervention. Afghanistan side conveyed their appreciation of India's role as chairman of Nonaligned Movement in promoting peace and stability in the region as well as India's assistance and cooperition in the field of economic and technical development of Afghanistan.

Karnataka Chief Minister Resigns Over Court Verdict

BK120333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The Karnataka chief minister, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, has resigned. This follows the state high court's adverse judgement in the arrack bottling contract case. The All India Radio Bangalore correspondent, Shesha Chandrika, says Mr Hegde sent his resignation letter to the governor, Mr A.M. Banerjee, last evening taking moral responsibility for the adverse verdict of the court. The governor is away on a tour of northern districts and is expected to be back this afternoon. Mr Hegde was not available for comment. Our correspondent adds that an informal cabinet meeting is expected this morning and the Janata Legislature Party may also hold an urgent meeting to discuss the issue. Last evening the state information minister, Mr Jeevaraj Alwa, who disclosed the resignation to newsmen, said Mr Hegde remained firm on his decision despite the efforts by his cabinet colleagues to dissuade him on the ground that a decision should be taken collectively.

The Janata party president, Mr Chandrasekhar, has ruled out any change in the leadership of the Karnataka ministry. He told newsmen at Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh that he would look into the matter after returning to New Delhi.

The high court verdict had rocked both the houses of legislature with the opposition led by Congress-I demanding the resignation of the government. The issue is also slated for discussion in the assembly on Friday.

The court, in its verdict, on 31 January crossed the state government's order of granting the arrack bottling contract to eight hand-picked contractors. It said eligible applicants have been rejected and those who are not eligible under the rules were selected for the award of the contract.

'Untoward Incidents' Occur in West Bengal Strike

BK111621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] In West Bengal, normal life was disrupted by the Bangla bundh [Bengal strike] which began at 0600 this morning. Our Calcutta correspondent reports that trams and buses remained off the road in the city. The suburban train services both on the eastern and southeastern railway, were totaly disrupted. Attendance in the state government offices was almost nil and the headquarters of the state administration remained completely desolate. However, there was some attendance in public sector undertakings.

The call for the 24-hour bundh was given by the ruling left front in protest against the rise in the prices of petroleum products and other essential commodities.

The chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, described the bundh as total and peaceful. Briefing newsmen in Calcutta this evening, he said police had to open fire at Sankrawl in Howjah district near a jute mill this morning to maintain peace. Two persons were injured. Some untoward incidents also took place in the industrial belt of 24 Paraganas and Hoogly.

In separate incidents at Pandabeshwar in Burdwan district, the central industrial security force fired and lathi [baton] charged, injuring 11 persons. The chief minister has condemned the firing. Mr Basu also said the people responded in favor of the bundh.

The chairman of the ruling left front, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, and the leaders of the left trade unions have described today's bundh as total and peaceful.

However, in a statement, the state Congress-I president, Mr Priya Ranjan Das Munshi, alleged that the willing workers and employees were not allowed to join their duties. Protesting against the bundh, the Congress-I workers brought out path jatras [walking march] in different parts of Calcutta. About 400 Congress-I workers courted arrest, violating prohibitory orders at Howrah town this afternoon.

Gorbachev Message Delivered to ICO Secretary General
BK120239 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Soviet ambassador called on the secretary general of Islamic Conference Organization in Islamabad yesterday and delivered a special message from the Soviet leader, Gorbachev. The meeting lasted 45 minutes.

Afghan Protest of Airspace Violation Rejected
BK120530 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pakistan has rejected a protest made by the Kabul authorities on Sunday [9 February] alleging that a Pakistani jet violated Afghan airspace in Konarha Province on 5 February. The Afghan Charge d'Affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad yesterday and was told that Pakistan rejects this protest of the Kabul authorities. He was asked to inform the Kabul authorities to desist from making such fictitious and baseless allegations.

Planning Minister Takes Oath of Office 12 Feb
BK120902 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Dr Mahbubul Haq has taken the oath of office as federal minister. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq administered the oath of office to him, and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo was also present. Dr Mahbubul Haq has been made the minister for planning and development.

Cabinet Committee Reviews National Economy
BK120452 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The cabinet's economic coordination committee has reviewed the performance of the national economy during 1984-85 in the light of the annual plan targets. Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto, federal minister for finance and economic affairs presided over the meeting. The committee was told that according to the latest statistics, the gross national product during this period grew by 9 percent, while the target was fixed at 8.5 percent. There was a total investment of 71,762 million rupees during 1983-84 which increased to 82,658 million rupees during 1984-85, a 15.2 percent increase. The value of monetary assets increased to 19,347 million rupees — an 11.9 percent increase. Inflation was a little more than the fixed target and had a good impact on the economy due to the unprecedented increase in the gross national product.

The committee also reviewed the movement of essential commodities and the stock position in the country and termed it satisfactory.

Further Reportage on Revolution Anniversary

Khamene'i Visits Qom

LD112149 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Station correspondent report on President Seyyid 'Ali Khamene'i's visit to Qom]

[Text] On the 7th anniversary of the magnificent victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, Revolution Day, and the Day of Allah, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, this afternoon arrived in the city of blood and uprising, the holy city of Qom. After a meeting and talks with His Holiness Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, he went to a rally held in the quadrangle of the holy shrine of the holy Ma'sumah — may Allah's peace be upon her — attended by Qom's revolutionary people. He gave a speech expressing condolences for the martyrdom of holy Fatimah the refulgent — may Allah's peace be upon her — the beloved daughter of the most noble prophet — may Allah's benedictions and peace be upon him and his scion — and expounding on the inception and the course of the sacred movement of Islam. He emphasized the role played by the Qom religious seminary and inhabitants in this historic movement by saying:

Today our biggest issue is our revolution. It has saved the Iranian nation from the abyss of abjection imposed on it and raised it to the heights of honor and esteem — granted to it by God. All our cause for pride we owe to this great elixir and historic achievements. If today you hear that the green banner of the Imam Rida shrine is aflutter on Iraqi soil and then you hear that our combatants have crossed the borders and are dealing blows at the enemy which shake him to his foundations, so much so as to move King Husayn and Mubarak, what is responsible is none other but this very Islamic revolution! It is the great elixir that has turned copper into gold, revived dead bodies, and given us such a stout heart that when the greatest superpower exposed his nails and teeth, we were not worried! This belongs to you, O nation, and there is no other nation and country which is like you. It is you and it is the leader and officials of your country for whom the anger and laughter of the superpowers are of no consequence.

Continuing his speech, Mr Khamene'i referred to the dangers that threatened the Islamic revolution and that were removed thanks to the vigilance of the leadership and wakefulness of the people. He said: The lose of ideology in revolution, the vulnerability of leadership, and the lack of continuity in leadership constitute some of the dangers that threaten the principle of revolution. However, our revolution, relying on a sacred and religious leadership and your presence, O resisting people, has been able to safeguard itself from such dangers!

Mr Khamene'i added: Our vigilant imam has not confined himself to merely bringing about this revolution, but has continuously endeavored to inform the people of the plots of world arrogance and, like a keen gardener, has continued to water this sapling.

The president of the Republic also referred to the election of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri as the future leader by the Assembly of Experts and said it is yet another demonstration of the continuity of leadership. He said: The election of the future leader is tantamount to a revolutionary reserve and is the result of our (?far-sightedness).

The president of the Republic, referring to the evils that threaten our revolution, then mentioned neglect of a constructive course of Islam and Islamic training as one of the evils threatening the revolution. He said: So far no revolution has occurred which enjoys the dimensions and characteristics of this revolution. No nation has safeguarded its revolution in this manner, faced such great and assorted problems emanating from foreign countries, or achieved all these successes. All this is the result of our Islamic faith and crystal clear Islamic thinking which relies on the Koran.

The president of the Republic also emphasized the need for resistance and safeguarding the revolutionary movement in order to continue the revolution. He said: Today, despite the war, we are carrying out a great deal of work, yet we should not forget that we are a revolutionary nation and are standing against all the tyrants of the age. Therefore, one generation should put up with difficulties. We are standing in order to bring about a society which will be a model for oppressed and suppressed humanity!

Mr Khamene'i then referred to neglect of foreign dangers as yet another evil threatening the revolution saying: Another evil and threat which could render the revolution ineffectual could be our neglect of foreign dangers that threaten the revolution and the taking of stands in opposition to one another. A number of people harbor the intention, by displaying illusory dangers, of diverting the people's minds from the real dangers. Islam's enemies attempt, by sowing discord between the Shi'ites and Sunnis, to place brother Muslims against one another. Today anyone who wants to sow discord between Islamic creeds and Muslims is a traitor to Islam.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, referring to the victories gained by Islam's combatants in the Val-Fajr-8 operations and the momentous divine blessings during this attack, said: By entering Iraqi territory we wish to punish the Ba'th Party by our own hand. We previously issued a warning, but the Saddamists and their backers did not believe us. We expressed the wish to punish Iraq's Ba'thist 'Aflaqite regime, but they did not take this seriously. However, we shall pursue a thief who has transgressed against our house and we shall punish him even in his own house. Of course, this is not the final task but constitutes a practical warning. We desire a just peace. In other words first, justice and then peace. These people, however, are ignoring the problem of justice. At this stage our combatants have crossed Arvand River and this was an extremely difficult task, but thanks to divine blessings it succeeded.

Mr Khamene'i added: Today, by the grace of God, our combatants are so prepared in order to smash any resistance. Saddam Husayn has so suggested to his backers and even the United States that Iran was no longer capable of dealing a blow! They even said: For the Jerusalem exercises Iran has used reserve divisions on the fronts! But of course you have seen how our combatants dealt their blow at them!

Then Mr Khamene'i, president of the Republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, then visited the holy shrine of the holy Ma'sumah — may Allah's peace be upon her! He then visited the graves of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the ulema of Islam in that shrine and prayed. He met and talked with the members of the Qom religious seminary.

Tehran Marchers Issue Resolution

LD111420 Tehran IRNA in English 1342 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — A million-strong march of committed Muslim Iranians was held here Tuesday to renew allegiance to the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni.

The march, marking the seventh anniversary of the Islamic revolution, started from early hours Tuesday in various streets of Tehran leading to Azadi Square where marchers issued a 12-point resolution.

The resolution, read by the head of the Coordination Council of the Islamic Propagation Organization, Hojjat ol-Eslam Javadi, strongly supported the principle of religious jurisprudence manifested in the leadership of Imam Khomeyni and the future spiritual leader Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri.

Reiterating contination of war until the achievement of final victory, the resolution stressed that the fight will be continued until the removal of the Iraqi regime and rejected disguised peace-seeking attempts.

It condemned crimes committed by international imperialism in various parts of the world, including the recent attempt to hijack a Libyan airliner and the plot to reduce oil prices.

The resolution called on the Islamic countries to adopt the policy of neither East nor West and alongside with their people thwart such vicious schemes.

The marchers, condemning U.S. crimes against oppressed people of the world and inhumane measures of the Soviet Union against Muslim people of Afghanistan, supported Islamic and liberation-seeking movements in the world.

The resolution stressed that the only key to the liberation of Al-Quds (Palestine) was the annihilation of the Zionist regime, noting that it was possible only through relying on the faith of the Muslims and their unity of expression.

It referred to the devotions of the Lebanese Muslim people and heroes such as the Egyptian soldier Sulayman Khatir as practical measures vis-a-vis the Zionist regime.

The resolution also supported endeavours of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran in safeguarding achievements of the Islamic revolution and called for a decisive stance in fighting against plots of international arrogance.

24 Million Celebrate Countrywide

LD111836 Tehran IRNA in English 1801 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — An estimated 24 million Iranians rallied through towns and cities in Iran marking the seventh anniversary of the triumph of the Islamic revolution Tuesday morning shouting slogans in condemnation of the superpowers and calling for a continued defensive war with the Iraqi forces, as Iran's Muslim troops were busy fighting with the Iraqi forces in a renewed offensive near the Iraqi city of Al-Faw.

In Tehran alone upwards of five million fervent supporters of the revolution gathered in and along streets leading to the Azadi Square in west Tehran to listen to President Khamene'i on the tenth day of the Ten-Day-Dawn ceremonies marking the return to Tehran of Imam Khomeyni on February 1, 1979 and the triumph of the Islamic revolution this day in 1979. (IRNA dispatch number THR 023 Tuesday erroneously put the figure at one million)

The rallies here and elsewhere in Iran were reminiscent of the Al-Quds rallies on the last Friday of the month of Ramadhan (June 14) at which millions of Iranians took to the streets throughout the country braving Saddam's threats of bombarding demonstrating people in Iran on that day.

Foreign broadcasts and news agencies also covered the news of the ceremonies in Iran.

Anniversary Celebrated Abroad

LD101111 Tehran IRNA in English 0938 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 10, IRNA — A member of the Pakistan Consultative Assembly, Asaad Gilani, said in Islamabad Sunday that the strong will of the Iranians has defeated the Iraqi regime despite the military and economic support given to it by the imperialist powers.

He made the statements at a ceremony held to mark the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Gilani, who is also a prominent Sunni Muslim figure, stressed that the international arrogance in order to crush the spread of the Islamic revolution throughout the world, was trying to confine it to Shi'ite Muslims.

Iran's ambassador to Pakistan Mahmoud Musavi who was also present at the ceremony refered to plots of international imperialism and said that there were evidences indicating that the U.S. was attempting to overshadow the outcome of President Khamene'i's recent visit to Pakistan.

The occasion was also celebrated in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in which Arab and Iranian Muslim students reiterated their allegiance to Imam Khomeyni and support for the continuation of the Iraqi-imposed war until complete removal of the oppressor.

In a resolution (?issued at the) ceremony, the participants lauded the new movement of the Egyptian Muslim students against the Zionist regime and Husni Mubarak's rule.

Condemning the military occupation of Afghanistan, the resolution called for the unconditional withdrawal of the usurper forces.

It also called on the OPEC member countries to confront the [word indistinct] by Britain to reduce oil prices.

On situation in Lebanon, the resolution condemned reconciliatory measures of subservient forces and supported the establishment of an Islamic system in that country.

Meanwhile in Canberra, Australia, a special ceremony was held at the city's mosque last Saturday which was attended by a large number of members of the Iranian Embassy. Another ceremony was held by the Iranian Embassy at [words indistinct].

Arab League Baghdad Meeting Participants Warned

LD120028 Tehran IRNA in English 0014 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 12, IRNA — The meeting of the Arab League committee in charge of follow up the Iraq-Iran war, due to be held in Baghdad on Wednesday, is a hostile act against the Iraqi people and the Moslem revolutionaries will not be responsible for the participants' lives, said Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, the speaker of the Supreme Council of Iraqi Islamic Revolution, here today.

Foreign Ministry on Killing of Lebanese Muslim

LD101748 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 10, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry here Monday condemned assassination of one of the leaders of the Islamic Tawhid Movement of Lebanon Sheikh Khalil Akawi.

Khalil Akawi was martyred by unidentified gunmen in an ambush attack on his car in the northern port city of Tripoli, Sunday.

In its statement the ministry said "once again U.S. and Zionist agents martyred an undefatigable Lebanese combatant.

The ministry in its message of condolences said that such acts show that the Islamic struggle against aggressors has so far been successful in Lebanon and that such acts will further strengthen the will of the Lebanese Muslims.

The ministry also condemned terrorist acts against the leaders of Lebanon's Islamic movement and said that "no doubt resistance of the Lebanese Muslims will not be broken as a result of such acts."

Meanwhile, Islamic Tawhid Movement held an extraordinary session chaired by Sheikh Sa'id Sha'ban to discuss terrorist activities.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Lauds Military Progress

GF091207 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Feb 86 p 2

[Excerpts] A large group of members of the reconstruction crusade from all over the country who were attending vocational training classes met Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani Thursday afternoon.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council addressed the gathering. Referring to the progress in the military field as a miracle, he said: Although all the enemies of Islam tried their best to see that the war ended in the defeat of the Islamic Republic, they failed. It is quite possible they do not like Saddam either, but they do not want us to become the victors. They believe that we should be weakened in the war and our prestige should be lost, but just the opposite has happened; the Islamic Republic has gained honors and, God willing, our victory in the war will be an example in the history of mankind. The history of this war will show that there was a revolutionary nation that stood on its own feet, destroyed the biggest military forces of the world, and demolished all the obstacles in its way.

He added: This is a great experiment which the Islamic Republic will hand over to the wealth of the history of mankind. This great experiment has decorated the history of mankind and has created an epic which will remain recorded forever in history.

The Majlis president then referred to the services rendered by the reconstruction crusaders. He said: Since the jobs carried out by the reconstruction crusaders are normally in the rural areas, the work usually remains hidden from the international media. Even if they see these services they do not cover them in the press because they always look for our weak points. However, despite this, they have admitted that the work of the reconstruction crusaders, which the Muslim youth have performed in far-flung areas of the country, has been unique.

The Majlis president then referred to the dependence [as heard] of the PDRY and to the events that have happened there. He applauded the high morale of our revolutionary ummah and the economic progress that Iran has achieved without dependence. He said: Although one-third of our budget and other resources are being spent on the war, still economically we have made good progress. On the average, our industrial dependence 7 years ago was more than 60 percent. It has actually gone down to more than 30 percent. Similarly, our economic dependence in technical and material areas has also been considerably reduced. Some 95 percent of the jobs which once required foreign specialists are now being performed by our own people. Management, repairs, installation and operation is now being done by our own people, and they do the job far better than it was done in the past. This is the situation now. Third World countries now envy us.

Velayati Meets Philosophers

GF080605 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Last night a round table was held in Tehran's Laleh [Tulip] Hotel to discuss the goals of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Local and foreign philosophers, who are guests

of the 7th anniversary celebrations of the Islamic revolution, participated.

According to our correspondent, Foreign Minister Mr Velayati, the political deputy of the Foreign Ministry, and the directors of the Asian and Oceania, and Arab and African Countries Departments of the Foreign Ministry answered questions of the participants.

According to this report, Mr Velayati gave a speech outlining the most important principle of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran which is the neither East, nor West policy. He answered a question on why the Islamic Republic, which adheres to the neither East, nor West policy, has relations with countries such as the Soviet Union and Turkey which are members of the Warsaw Pact and NATO. He said: The neither East, nor West policy means not accepting to be under the control of the East or West. This does not mean cutting off ties with them, because having relations with a country does not mean the approval of all that country's policies.

For example, we have relations with the Soviet Union but we do not approve of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. We have condemned the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan time and time again in international organizations and in our talks with Soviet officials. We do not hide our interest in the policies of those countries with which we have relations. We have always voiced our criticisms and we have confronted antireligious and antipopular policies. But one cannot judge a country's policies or make decisions without having relations with it.

Aqazadeh Discusses Oil Talks With Libya, Algeria

LD081750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Interview with Petroleum Minister Gholem Reza Aqazadeh by unidentified Central News Unit correspondent on 8 February; place not identified — recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Minister, oil prices have been falling while oil supplies in the international markets have been increasing for some time now. Taking note of the joint tripartite sessions which you have had (?lately) with the oil ministers of Libya and Algeria in Tripoli, could you please inform us of what the three countries' analysis of the existing situation is?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We shared almost all of the same viewpoints at these joint sessions, and the topics discussed can be summarized as follows: First, the current plot is more political than economic, and it has started with the West's [words indistinct] with the cooperation of the United States and Britain as a mouthpiece, and inside OPEC as well. Some OPEC members are probably cooperating with them. Another agreed upon topic for discussion was that defending the price of existing quotas, even lowering this amount, is essential. It also was deemed very important to maintain homogeneity, support, and collaboration within OPEC under the present circumstances. It was noted that some OPEC members are embarking on certain moves that are weakening OPEC's homogeneity. Thus, these topics and viewpoints were shared by all three countries and their results can be seen in our joint statement.

[Correspondent] Iran, Algeria, and Libya in the course of these sessions have begun (?talks) to improvise ways of normalizing the oil market situation. What was the outcome and what practical proposals did these three countries put forward to solve the problem?

[Aqazadeh] After analyzing and studying the existing situation, all three countries arrived at certain conclusions and programs, some of which I will inform you about. For instance, taking note of the instability brought about in all producer countries or, the majority of them, it is necessary to have meetings with OPEC and non-OPEC members and with those not directly involved with the plot. Common points of view must be arrived at with them so that we will be able to give due regard to this subject in the forthcoming session. This matter also should be conveyed to the authorities of every country and the consequences and losses incurred if this position is not accepted must be explained. It also was decided that the existing quota must be strongly defended and we should not be prepared to see a drop in price under any circumstances. These issues together with other programs were discussed at the joint session; decisions were made which will be announced after they reach their implementation stage.

[Correspondent] In connection with the extensive collaboration (?of the three countries) with the West and [words indistinct] the drop of oil prices, there is need for collaboration on the one hand and the need for confrontation with this situation on the other. Do you foresee a continuation of the trend of a fall in oil prices? At what point will it come to a standstill?

[Aqazadeh] The continuation of this plot depends on to what extent the producer countries of OPEC and non-OPEC (?membership), those which experience instability, can preserve their homogeneity and unity and move against this plot. As you know, the industrial Western countries and the United States and some members (?of OPEC) seriously decided to break the prices and we are determined to prevent this plot. The countries with whom we have been in contact up to now, collaboration and good [word indistinct] has been anticipated. We hope that governments of producer countries will began a serious move to deal with this issue (?from the start).

With regard to those countries that have participated in this plot and especially those who spring from within OPEC membership, we must make them see their mistake and remind them that their role, action, and position in this plot will be exposed to their nations if it were realized tomorrow. They must have a reply ready to give their nations because the treason that is being committed today against the Muslim people and against Third World countries (?that are) oil producers, cannot be overlooked and is irreparable.

We also believe that this plot will not succeed if a serious and well rounded action is taken against it. We hope that we can, God willing, prevent this plot in the shortest possible time.

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Libyan Counterpart

LD111612 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — Visiting Libyan Deputy Foreign Minister [title as received] Sayyid Hafyanih in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam here Monday emphasized the need for further coordination and unity of expression of progressive countries to confront Zionism and imperialism.

The Libyan deputy foreign minister is a member of a visiting Libyan delegation headed by Abu Sayd 'Umar Burdah, here to participate in joint political-military committee meetings between Iran and Libya.

Expressing congratulations on the 7th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Libyan deputy foreign minister said that Irano-Libyan ties are to such an extent that the Libyan delegation members feel at home in the Islamic Republic.

In response, the Iranian deputy foreign minister expressed thanks for the Libyan nation and leadership's congratulations on the occasion.

On the recent plots hatched by the imperialist countries in collaboration with some oil producing states to drive down oil prices, Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed hope that serious measures would be taken by the progressive OPEC member countries to thwart the conspiracy.

The two sides also reviewed the agenda for the second meet of the joint political-military committee.

Majlis Deputy Khalkhali Arrives in Libya

GF080602 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Sadeq Khalkhali, Majlis deputy from Qom, arrived in Tripoli yesterday at the head of a delegation of Majlis deputies, at the invitation of the Libyan Government. He was welcomed by a high-ranking official of the Libyan People's Congress, the Iranian ambassador to Libya, and other officials from this embassy.

Mr Khalkhali is carrying messages from Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis, for Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and Major Jallud.

Khalkhali gave an interview to the IRNA correspondent and commented on the recent provocations by the United States and Israel in the Mediterranean Sea. He stressed: The people of Iran are beside the Libyan people. In sensitive times, we consider it our duty to defend this country.

The Majlis deputy from Qom concluded by saying: We have not exported our revolution with the force of the gun, but the people have joined us after understanding realities. He talked about the recent trip of Mr Khamene'i to Pakistan and several African countries and said: The huge welcome given to our president in these countries showed that the old formulas and the showing of bare teeth and claws to the people have no effect.

Special Envoy Takes Message to Kuwait Ruler

LD111807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Lavasani, the special envoy of our country's president, at about midday today arrived at Kuwait International Airport to hand over a letter from Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, to the amir of Kuwait. He was welcomed by a number of Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry officials and the staff of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait.

Qatari Minister Receives Iranian Ambassador

LD101846 Tehran IRNA in English 1726 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 10, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Doha, Baqer Sakha'e met Qatar's Minister of Electricity and Water Shaykh Jasim ibn Muhammad Al Thani in Doha Monday.

During the meeting the Qatari minister referred to bilateral relations and said that extensive propaganda has been made against the Islamic Republic over the past years.

Al Thani said but those who know Iran will not pay attention to these propaganda.

Sakha'e in return announced Iran's viewpoints vis-a-vis the Islamic and neighboring countries and stressed on bilateral relations.

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Venezuelan President

LD091233 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Yesterday, an Iranian delegation headed by the deputy foreign affairs minister in charge of international and economic affairs met with Jaime Lusinchi, the Venezuelan president.

During this meeting a note from President Khamene'i was submitted to the Venezuelan president and views were exchanged on the recent oil plots. The president of Venezuela acknowledged the stances declared by the Islamic Republic of Iran and stressed the need for an orchestrated and homogeneous move to reduce the oil output figures to eradicate the present market saturation. He stated: The plot to bring down oil prices is a political one which will bring disastrous consequences to the economies of many countries as well as extensive political repercussions. We must stage an organized political move to confront this matter.

Further, in connection with OPEC, he noted: We must stand against abolishing OPEC; there is a plot to achieve this. The Venezuelan president concluded by confirming the important role played by Iran in the regional and global arena saying: Iran must take this opportunity to confront the current plots.

SAIRI Urges Iraqi Army To Act Against Saddam

LD111825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) met this afternoon under its chairman, Ayatollah Hakim. The meeting studied the problems of and events in Iraq, and discussed the latest developments and recent victories by Islam's combatants. Ayatollah Hakim, chairman of SAIRI, gave an interview to our colleague and replied to his questions.

Ayatollah Hakim referred to the fact that Islam's combatants have begun these sacred operations for the defense of the oppressed Iraqi nation against the oppression and tyranny of Saddam's Ba'thist, Zionist regime and for the defense of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. He said: In our opinion these operations have humanitarian and Islamic dimensions and, according to the ruling of the imam of the Islamic nation that defense of the oppressed Iraqi nation is mandatory, it is essential that all of the world public's attention should be directed to this problem. He said: Certain regional governments have been defending the Saddam regime and we have often warned them against this. We call on them to support the Iraqi nation since the fate of the Saddam regime has entered a sensitive phase today. The Iraqi people will undoubtedly make their own decision as to what stance to adopt toward the world's positions.

He said: The task carried out by Islam's combatants should have been fulfilled by the Iraqi Army and we call on the Iraqi Army in this connection to take steps against the Saddam regime, shoulder to shoulder with Islam's combatants, and to march only along the path of Islamic aspirations. We call on the Iraqi nation to make use of this opportunity to take steps against the Saddam regime.

In conclusion, the chairman of SAIRI called on all Iraqis abroad to join the ranks of the Iraqi mujahadin on the battlefronts and take effective steps along the path of Islam's aspirations.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2378

LD111652 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said here Tuesday that Iranian Muslim combatants had launched an offensive at 22:00 hours local time (18:30 hours GMT) Sunday code-named 'Ya Fatemeh al-Zahra'.

The Communique Number 2378, of the Joint Staff Command says that Iranian Muslim combatants destroyed enemy's defence lines and crossed "Nahr-Ekhayyen". Iranian Muslim forces, it added, attacked Bubiyan Island and began liberating the region. The communique says that Iranian Muslim combatants continued advancing into the Iraqi territory and occupied Iraq's Kut al-Sawadi outpost.

The command says that Bubiyan Island is completely controlled by the Iranian Muslim forces and fresh troops have been dispatched to the island for next operations.

In the western and northwestern fronts, the communique says, Muslim combatants continue their fighting with the Iraqi troops. In western fronts operational regions Iranian artillery fire killed nine Iraqi soldiers and inflicted losses on the enemy, the communique says.

In northwestern fronts Iranian Muslim combatants silenced Iraqi artillery fire in Marivan Region inflicting casualties and damage on the Iraqi troops, according to the Joint Staff Command.

Meanwhile, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were subjected to the enemy's long-range artillery fire sustaining minor damage.

[Tehran IRNA in English at 1846 GMT on 11 February transmitted the following message: "Attention all editors. Tehran, Feb 11, IRNA — IRNA put two versions of the Joint staff Command Communique number 2378 on the wire twice Tuesday, they were both numbered (THR 035) but only the second version bearing title (Nine Iraqi Casualties in Western Fronts) is the confirmed text of the report and may be used. Thanks. IRNA." The second version deleted the first four paragraphs of this communique.]

Forces Occupy Al-Faw

LD111733 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Communique No 7 issued 11 February by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

By the dawn and ten nights.[Koranic verse]

Islam's mighty combatants, following the liberation of the Iraqi city of Al-Faw, consolidated and strengthened their positions in that city this afternoon and, while repulsing two enemy counterattacks, inflicted further heavy losses and casualties on the enemy. The number of POW's evacuated behind the front so far number more than 1,000, and more than 5,000 enemy troops have been killed or wounded during the "Val-Fajr-8" operations. The swift and heroic pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a series of operations smashed enemy positions and fortifications along the operational axes, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy. The heroic pilots of the Army aviation force raided the positions of Baghdad's Zionist forces and inflicted appreciable losses on them.

The selfless combatants of the monotheistic corps today succeeded in opening fire on and downing 10 enemy aircraft. One enemy helicopter was also shot down over the operational sector thanks to fire by Islam's combatants.

Since the beginning of "Val-Fajr-8" operations, apart from the destruction of an appreciable number of enemy tanks, personnel carriers and vehicles, dozens of tanks and personnel carriers fell intact to Islam's combatants and were immediately used against the enemy.

Succor from God and onto victory! [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

POW's Comment on Offensive

LD111839 Tehran IRNA in English 1831 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11 IRNA — Iraqi prisoners of war taken captive in latest offensive which was launched by Iranian forces in southern fronts Sunday night, all confessed that the attack had caught them by surprise.

In an interview with IRNA Monday, 2nd Lieutenant Ibrahim al-Tamman from Battallion 499 of Brigade 47 of Iraq's 11th Division said he surrendered after Iranian artillery fire had killed all his fellow-combatants.

Another Iraqi POW, Sergeant 'Ali Ismail, aged 42, from Brigade 47 of the 11th Division said because Iraqi commanders were unaware of the attack they had not given alert order to the Iraqi troops and even allowed some soldiers to go on leave.

'Ali Ismail said Iraqi troops were surrounded by Iranian forces in the beginning of the attack and those Iraqi soldiers who tried to resist were killed.

'Abd al-Salam Salih said a large percentage of the Iraqi troops were older soldiers as evidenced by the age of those captured. He noted that most serious problem of the Iraqi regime was manpower shortage which had forced it not only to employ mercenaries but also to extend military service and reserve periods to 42 months.

Warrant Officer Jasim Kazim Jarullah said that behaviour of Iranian captors towards them is quite friendly and is contrary to what Iraqi commanders had been telling them in order to make them afraid...

Meanwhile Iraqi soldiers taken captive during the liberation of the city of Al-Faw by Iranian Muslim combatants said that Iraqi Army commanders never imagined that Iranian combatants would cross the Arvand and surmount the heavily fortified E. Tigris River area between Al-'Amarah to northern Basra and liberate Al-Faw.

In a talk with IRNA, a wounded Iraqi deputy major of Second Battalion of Brigade 441, Naji Ahmad Sulayman said that the Iraqi imposed war against Iran was unlike any other conventional war. He said that in every war the two opposing forces kill each other as soon as they face one another, however, Iranian forces help Iraqi soldiers if the need arises.

The wounded Iraqi major expressed surprise at being treated by Iranian fighters behind the lines and added that the Iraqi Army has come to an end. He urged those commanders who issue orders to resist to think of another alternative because "the strongest Iraqi fortifications have fallen".

Another Iraqi POW, 1st Lieutenant Khalaf Najm 'Abdallah of Iraq's Coast Guard said that he ordered his soldiers not to resist as soon as he learnt that Iranian forces had crossed Arvand River and laid siege to the city of Al-Faw.

He said that Iraqi political commissars had told Iraqi troops that they would be killed as soon as they were taken captive by the Iranian forces. On the contrary, he added, "the Muslim forces have treated us in a sincere and brotherly manner."

Among the POW's, was 'Ali Adnan 'Abd al-Qadir who was taken captive in Al-Faw as the Iranian Muslim combatants crossed the Arvand River.

Ba'thist commander of "Hatin" forces, Brigadier 'Abbas na'mih al-Riqabi, was seen fleeing to save his neck in fear of death.

Iraqi Losses Detailed

GF120546 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0450 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Communique No 8 issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Joint Operational Headquarters]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. "By the dawn and by the 10 nights" [Koranic verse].

O Muslim self-sacrificing nation; O self-sacrificing faithful 'ummah. The combatants of Islam have carried out the "Val-Fajr-8" operations alongside you martyr nurturing 'ummah as a practical warning to Saddam and his supporters. The might and glory of your marches encouraged the combatants of Islam to take another step against the aggressor enemy in order to fulfill the wishes and slogans of your faithful people.

For this reason, last night at 2200 [1830 GMT] they succeeded in striking another deadly blow on the defeated Ba'thist forces West of the Arvand River and north of conquered city of Al-Faw, and were able to advance to the salt factory. As a result, the third and last missile site of the enemy was captured by the Iranian forces. More than 100 km of sensitive area in the region was liberated. One enemy battalion was destroyed and more than 700 criminal Ba'thists were killed. Two hundred of the aggressors were imprisoned; the number of prisoners taken during "Val-Fajr-8" operations has reached 1,200. In the course of these operations tens of enemy tanks were destroyed or taken as booty.

It is noteworthy that in Al-Faw region alone deadly blows have been struck against the following enemy units by your children: the 111st Infantry Brigade, totally destroyed; 5th Commando Battalion of the 26th Army, totally destroyed; 2d Battalion of the 441st Brigade, totally destroyed; 22d Battalion of Difa' al-Wajibat, totally destroyed; 3 units of the people's army, totally

destroyed; the port defense company, totally destroyed; 2d Battalion of the 440th Brigade, totally destroyed; 441st Company of the Commando Brigade. 50 percent destroyed; 110th Infantry Brigade, 25 percent destroyed; one battalion from the 7th army, 20 percent destroyed; and the Dhu al-Nurayn Tank Battalion and the Salah al-Din Observation Battalion have sustained heavy losses. "With the assistance of God, victory is at hand." [Koranic verse]

Captured Tanks Turned on Iraq

LD120812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0755 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] According to reports received a few minutes ago from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the powerful combatants of Islam continue the victorious "Val-Fajr-8" operation and have now captured more than 120 tanks and personnel carriers belonging to the enemy together with 150 various undamaged vehicles. At present this equipment is being used against the enemy.

This report also indicates that the POW transfer to locations behind the front line continues. Among the POW's there are 14 Iraqi officers and 100 NCO's. Reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' say that the combatants of Islam are establishing and fortifying the positions liberated as the result of last night's operations. Having carried out mopping up operations including capturing enemy's last missile base which is under the control of Islam's forces, our combatants have opened fire on enemy positions and concentration points.

Four Warplanes Downed

LD120920 Tehran IRNA in English 0852 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Val-Fajr-8 Operational Theater, Feb. 12, IRNA — Four more Iraqi warplanes were downed by the heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants of Iran Wednesday morning.

The number of Iraqi warplanes downed by the Iranian combatants since the start of Val-Fajr-8 offensive Sunday night, now stands at 14.

Meanwhile latest reports from the operational theater indicate that the Iranian forces in addition to destroying a remarkable amount of the Iraqi munitions, have seized over 150 intact armoured tanks and personnel carriers, and 40 anti-aircraft artillery pieces.

The seized ammunition are being used by the Islamic combatants against the Iraqi enemy, and their deployment has increased the combat power of the Iranian forces in the operational theater.

The Iranian forces are also utilising seized engineering machineries of the enemy, including 15 loaders, to clean up the area and reinforce their strongholds and positions.

Meanwhile, the Iranian forces completely destroyed seven more Iraqi Jaysh al-Sha'bi units killing or wounding their personnel.

The Salah al-Din patrol and Zolnurrain tank brigades were also completely smashed Wednesday.

At present the operational theater is covered with the corpses of the Iraqi forces and a thick cloud of smoke from the Iraqi equipment set ablaze billows over the operational theater.

Iraqi Army Commander Receives Award for 'Desertion'

LD111958 Tehran IRNA in English 1939 GMT 11 Feb 86

[text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Feb. 11, IRNA — Saddam Husayn has rewarded a runaway Iraqi army commander of Al-Faw, describing him as a "Hero of Al-Qadisiyah". It seems ironic that he was awarded the Al-Rafidayn Medal for supposed bravery, while his very act of desertion was one of cowardice.

The commander, Brigadier General Najm 'Abdallah was the first to quit his post in the Al-Faw operational region where the Iranian combatants launched their attack.

Iraqi POW, Major Naji Ahmad Sulayman, deputy commander of Brigade 441 of Division 26 of Iraqi Army said that 'Abdallah was the first Iraqi officer who quit the command room when the offensive began.

The Iraqi major said that as the brigadier escaped he ordered his soldiers to surrender to the Iranian Muslim fighters without resisting.

The Iraqi POW said that the absurd titles such as hero or commander of Al-Qadisiyah are undeserved by Saddam and his clique who flee the war fronts to save their own lives.

Commentary Views Relations With Soviet Union

GF111752 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 3 Feb 86 p 20

[Political commentary by Yunas Shakarkhah: "Moscow, A New Choice?"]

[Text] Georgiy Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, arrived in Tehran yesterday afternoon at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This visit is, in fact, a follow up to the visit to Moscow by the economic and international affairs deputy in our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

There is no denying that this visit is considered important, and not only by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the USSR. All of the major political circles in the world are studying the visit and its outcome very carefully.

By sending Edward Shevardnadze's deputy to visit our country, the Soviet Union has paid due respect to the greatest power in the region — revolutionary Iran. Naturally, our reciprocal response may be interpreted as a first step toward a dexterous diplomatic move. It is but natural that the gesture of despatching such a high-ranking official of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs to visit Iran would prove effective only if he evaluates relations between the two countries based on Iranian diplomacy. Those who follow international political problems know full well

that this visit may serve as a prelude to establishing deeper relations and raising the existing relations to a higher level based on reciprocal understanding.

The present atmosphere of the relations between Iran and the Soviet Union is not very pleasant, due mostly to two problems — the occupation of Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq war. In fact we must say that it is the Soviet Union which could basically eliminate the present coolness.

The other issue which has acted as a independent factor in creating the present conditions is Iran's treatment of movements within the country which lean toward the East; this is truly and completely a domestic issue. Unfortunately, Moscow is still not prepared to accept this. The least we can say is that the Soviets' attitude in this matter has been an ebb and flow. From the point of view of Iran and all revolutionary and just international circles this is a domestic issue which is dead and considered finished. Iran has repeatedly announced that this issue will under no circumstances affect the general relationship between Moscow and Tehran. Now there remains only two problems — the occupation of Afghanistan and the imposed war.

The occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union may have taken place as an invasion (seeking closeness to the Persian Gulf) or as a defensive measure (to combat the growing waves of Islam), but whatever the reason it is not acceptable either to Iran or to any others with sound logic. Let us say that this military occupation took place when Iran was a center of anti-American campaigns (taking as hostages the American spies) and the step taken by the Soviet Union caused the rightists and the regional political circles to become more coordinated and drew the public attention from the anti-American move to another side. We may mention that no sooner had the Red Army crossed the border into Afghanistan than Brzezinski, Carter's national security chief, ordered the cessation of all hostile American measures against Iran so that he could turn the anti-American atmosphere toward the Soviet Union. In any case, this military occupation is not acceptable at all and if the situation persists it will naturally become a Vietnam for the Soviet Union. Despite these problems, the Iranian stand on the occupation of Afghanistan is quite clear. We must reiterate that Iran would prefer a nonaligned Afghanistan to an occupied Afghanistan.

Moscow again referred to its stance on the imposed war in the Saddam-Gromyko meeting and asked for a quick end to the war. To be brief, we do not wish to repeat the rightful stance of Iran on the war. The war is at the top of everything and will continue until victory. It is for Moscow not to waste time. It is obvious that the Iranian revolutionary people are guardians of the Islamic revolution and will know friend from enemy in difficult times. They will strengthen their future relations on this principle. If Moscow keeps to its present stance on the war, will it not lose the strategic reserve strength of the Iranian revolution which at present is being used in clashes against the United States.

One of the important dimensions of Korniyenko's visit is when it took place, which might give the Soviet Union an historical choice, because Korniyenko came to Iran at a time when a powerful mobilization throughout the country is ready to battle the Zionist enemy and is itching to go into action. Therefore we should say that although at first sight political circles may take the Korniyenko visit in connection with the framework of "end the war," we must also say that the fact is today the Iranian military and political capabilities are at their zenith and the "paths to end war" have changed to "determining the fate of Saddam". Moscow is surely aware of this. It is on this account that Moscow should not waste time. The time factor is the only parameter for political exchanges which cannot be reversed.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iran claimed further successes in a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio 13 February, asserting that Iranian forces continued to advance along the Al-Faw-Basra highway and dealt "mortal blows" to an Iraqi Presidential Guards Division which had attempted a counterattack. Iranian forces have reportedly "liberated" over 700 sq km of Iraqi territory in their current offensive. The communique also accused Iraq of resorting to chemical weapons, and a related IRNA report spoke of 1,500 Iranian soldiers injured by Iraqi gas attacks. The Iraqi information minister, however, denied that Iraq has used chemical weapons, asserting that Iran's claims in this regard are an attempt to cover the losses and retreat of Iranian forces, according to INA. In the same report, he also denied the fall of Umm Qasr. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio likewise stressed that Iraq's III and VII Army Corps were continuing to foil the Iranian offensive, asserting that the VII Army is besieging Iranian troops and has forced them back several kilometers. Meanwhile, the Iraqi Air Force carried out hundreds of raids on ground targets and also attacked a "large enemy maritime target" and an Iranian "monitoring station," the communique added. While the communique reported that another Iranian F-4 was downed 13 February, IRNA subsequently claimed that Iran has downed 21 Iraqi warplanes and 2 helicopters in the course of the latest offensive.

As for the results of Iran's warning to Kuwait over Bubiyan Island, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran is "happy" that Kuwaiti officials have stated that Bubiyan and other Kuwaiti resources "will not be placed at the disposal of anyone." Nevertheless, the Kuwaiti foreign minister was one of seven Arab ministers attending an Arab League Followup Committee meeting in Baghdad called to discuss the Iranian "aggression," according to Baghdad radio.

In contrast, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i discussed the military situation in telephone conversations with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, according to Tehran radio.

Iran

Documents allegedly showing that Iran is training guerrilla squads for sabotage missions in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are CIA forgeries, an Iranian deputy minister said in a news conference reported by IRNA. The official added that Iran categorically denies forming such guerrilla teams.

PDRY

There are no Soviet military bases in the PDRY, Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas claimed in a Kuwaiti press interview reported by KUNA. In the *AL-SIYASAH* interview, Al-'Attas invited journalists to visit Soqotra Island and the rest of the country to verify his statement. Al-'Attas also said that while the PDRY desires closer ties with the YAR, GCC states, and other Arab countries, it is indifferent toward the United States' nonrecognition of the new leadership. In a separate statement reported by WAKH, Al-'Attas told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* that there has been no mediation between the new government and former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Libya-Chad

Ndjamena radio denied that Koro Toro has fallen to "Libyan forces," maintaining that the northern Chadian town was not attacked. The Chadian Government has the situation "under control" in Kouba Olanga but "violent fighting" continues in Oum Chalouba, Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou told the radio. According to Lassou, enemy losses totalled 216 killed and 220 captured while government losses amounted to ? killed and 20 wounded.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Reporting on the outcome of the 12 February Israeli-Egyptian talks in Herzliyya, Jerusalem radio said the two sides have decided that the "arbitral compromis" will not include issues that are not directly connected to the Tabah dispute. IDF radio reported earlier that the two sides had reached agreement on various practical arrangements for the arbitration. In a related development, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received the head of the Egyptian delegation, who stressed Egypt's desire to improve relations in all fields and reaffirmed Egypt's "positive" view of the Israeli Inner Cabinet decision to submit the Tabah issue to arbitration, according to Jerusalem radio.

Relations With Ivory Coast — Foreign Minister Shamir congratulated the president and Government of the Ivory Coast for their decision to reestablish relations with Israel. The renewal of relations was announced earlier by Jerusalem and Abidjan radios.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'arafat invited Executive Committee members to an "urgent" meeting to study recent U.S. statements on the Middle East peace process, a Palestinian source told KUNA. Meanwhile, *DIE WELT* cited a GDR Government source as saying that Fatah Revolutionary Council leader Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, is currently being treated for liver cancer in a state hospital in East Berlin, according to AFP.

Saudi Arabia-Egypt

During a visit to Cairo, Saudi Prince Turki told the Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* that Egyptian-Saudi relations are a "strategic necessity" and that President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd should meet in the near future, MENA reported. Prince Turki, a brotner of King Fahd, disclcsed that he was received by President Mubarak during his "private" visit, noting that the talks covered the Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi relations.

Lebanon

The arrests and accusations concerning "terrorist cells" in East Berlin have no justification, former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah said in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

Algeria

President Chadli Bendjedid appointed four new ministers and abolished three vice ministerial posts, APS reported.

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Karmal Congratulates Castro on Reelection

LD122022 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council president, has sent the following congratulatory telegram to F. Castro on the occasion of his reelection as first secretary of Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee:

Comrade F. Castro, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Cuba; February 1986; Kabul:

Dear comrade: Allow me to express, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee and myself, the best comradely congratulations on the occasion of your reelection as the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee.

Your reelection to this sensitive duty full of responsibility manifests the profound confidence that the Communist Party and the heroic people of Cuba have in you as a well-known personality of the international communist and labor movements.

The PDPA and our free-born people attach great value to the existing fraternal and comradely relations between the parties, governments, and people of the two countries in which you, dear Comrade F. Castro, have played and are playing a worthy and important role for their further growth.

Taking the opportunity once again, I sincerely congratulate you on your reelection and wish further victories for the fraternal people of Cuba under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba, headed by you, dear comrade, in the implementation of the resolutions of the historic third Congress of Communist Party of Cuba for the ever further blossoming of the Republic of Cuba. With warm comradely greetings. Babrak Karmal, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Dost Meets Visiting CSSR Deputy Foreign Minister

LD120756 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0444 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 11, BAKHTAR — Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the DRA met with Stanislav Svoboda, deputy foreign minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic here today.

Major international issues of mutual concern to both the sides, the situation in the region and further development of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries were discussed in a friendly atmosphere.

According to another report, official talks also took place between the Czechoslovak delegation and the delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA.

Commentary Views Work of CIA Mercenaries

LD130959 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 12, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

Western mass media ever-increasingly spread news about the active participation of professional mercenaries and cutthroats in the imperialistic undeclared war against the DRA.

The confessions of one of these professional war mercenaries, David Shannon, have been published in the well-known American magazine of [name indistinct], which are indicative of the direct interferences of the U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its direct participation in the undeclared war against the DRA.

Shannon is one of the experienced professional cutthroats, who was previously employed by the CIA for killing and bloodshed in Angola and Mozambique.

He [words indistinct] experience in crimes. The criminal cutthroat has admitted that he illegally entered three times into the territory of the DRA along with the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands. His latest entry into Afghanistan along with other three criminals was in June last year. The inspirers of these mercenaries (?have) praised them with pride in their press.

These war mercenaries are employed by the CIA and the Washington administration (?and) they embark upon most ignominious crimes throughout the world for the sake of money at the behest of the US imperialism.

The Western (?press) has already admitted that the Washington administration makes use of these professional cutthroats in the imperialistic undeclared war against the DRA.

The first (?band) of war mercenaries of the Washington administration was organised in Pakistan in 1980 aimed at carrying on the undeclared war against Afghanistan, and ever since that time, its scope has unprecedentedly been expanded.

The Western press has admitted on several occasions that the largest CIA operations after the war of Vietnam have been conducted against the DRA.

The counter-revolutionaries have received nearly [number indistinct] billion dollars military and economic aid from the USA targetted at murder and plunder in Afghanistan. They will receive over 470 million dollars military aid for this purpose during the current fiscal year.

The undeclared war unleashed against Afghanistan, is designed, organised and financed by [word indistinct], a country that feigns itself on the international arena as the defender of human rights.

The US press is reflecting the issue of making use of pilotless planes for dropping US weapons inside Afghanistan for the counter-revolutionary bands.

High Court Stays Execution of Indian Hijackers

BK131102 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A division bench of the Lahore High Court has admitted appeals filed by three Indian nationals and stayed operation of their death sentences. These Indian nationals were sentenced to death by the special court last month on the charges of hijacking an Indian airliner into Pakistan in July 1984. The court also admitted for hearing appeals by seven [Indian nationals] against sentences for hijacking [another Indian plane to Pakistan] in 1981.

Yaqub Khan Discusses Relations, Trade With India

BK130858 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said Pakistan seeks tension-free relations with India to promote an environment of peace and stability in the region which serves the best interest of the region. He was winding up the debate in the Senate tonight on a motion moved by Maulana Samiul Haq to discuss recent trade agreement between Pakistan and India. The motion was dropped out. He said this policy of normalization of relations with India has been consistent and (?steadfast) keeping our sovereignty and honor. The rationale of this policy is further reinforced by the security environment that prevails in the region. He said under no circumstances can Pakistan develop relations with any other country at the cost of its national interest. National interest and national dignity and honor must be and indeed are our paramount consideration and so will they remain.

As for the (?normalization) of trade with India it is the part of the overall policy of building a new pattern of peace and cooperation in South Asia. These and other developments, including improvements in [word indistinct] and expansion of contacts in science and culture testify to a turn for the better in relations with that country. He reassured the House that normalization of relations does not in any way imply any compromise on principles and the government had not sacrificed and will not sacrifice our position. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan reiterated that our stand on the question of Jammu and Kashmir remains firmly rooted in the resolutions of the United Nations and Pakistan is resolved to find a peaceful settlement of this dispute in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. Speaking on the adjournment motion, the federal commerce minister, Mr Mohyuddin Baluch, said the Government of Pakistan favors step by step approach in normalizing its trade relations with India. The government has every intention of protecting its legitimate economic interests in trade with India and will ensure protection to the domestic industry and [words indistinct] in bilateral trade will be avoided.

He said Pakistan agreed to open its private sector import of 42 items which are very important for the [word indistinct] population of Pakistan. These items were already being imported by the private sector that were routed through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan for (? monitoring) purposes. He said no trade agreement was signed during the visit of the Indian finance minister to Pakistan and further dialogue between both the sides will continue. He said the two sides had agreed that they will [passage indistinct].

Iranian Envoy Speaks on Bilateral Relations

GF121405 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 8 Feb 86 pp 1, 7

[Text] Karachi, 7 February (staff reporter) — The Pakistan-Iran joint ministerial council will meet in Tehran on 17 and 18 February and the Pakistan-Iran-Turkey economic cooperation organization will meet in Islamabad from 20 to 26 February. This was stated by Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan Seyyed Mir Mahmud Musavi-Khamene'i in his speech at the Karachi Press Club. He stated that the meetings of the economic cooperation organization would be held to find the ways and means to promote cooperation in various fields. The first meeting of its kind was held in Tehran last year and the second in Ankara.

Concerning the recent visit to Pakistan of the president of Iran, the Iranian ambassador said: The overwhelming reception accorded to President Khamene'i at Lahore and Islamabad indicates the closest of relations between the two Islamic countries. He expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries in other fields would also be strengthen in the near future, because both the countries have the same history and culture. His excellency the ambassador said: There has been unity in the Islamic countries because of the Islamic revolution in Iran. Western mass media has been doing its best to cause misunderstandings about the Islamic revolution. They succeeded to some extent, but the Islamic countries took no notice of this propaganda. Now we will strengthen our relations with the Islamic and Third World countries. Responding to a question on the visit of the deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union to Tehran last week, the Iranian ambassador said: The Soviet Union is our neighbor. We want to strengthen our relations with our neighbors, but we would prefer to promote our relations with Islamic countries. We still have differences with the Soviet Union on the questions of the Iran-Iraq war and Afghanistan. When asked whether there has been any change in Iranian foreign policy since the visit of the Soviet deputy foreign minister, he said: No, but changes have come in the foreign policies of the Soviet Union and other countries.

Prior to his speech, the chairman of the Karachi Press Club, His Excellency Mahmud 'Ali Asad, had welcomed the Iranian ambassador. He addressed the Press Club on the close relations between Iran and Pakistan.

Iranian Majlis Deputy Interviewed on War

GF121308 Lahore JANG in Urdu 8 Feb 86 pp 1, 7

["Exclusive" interview with Majlis Deputy Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari by *JANG* Forum at Lahore — date not given]

[Text] Lahore (*JANG* Forum report) — Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari, a member of the Iranian parliament's budget committee and part of the visiting Iranian parliamentary delegation, has stated that the end of Iran-Iraq war is not far away and that God Almighty will create a situation for the justification of the Iranian stance to be appreciated and accepted by everyone. He

stated that Iran has three basic conditions — identification of the aggressor, payment of war reparations, and removal of President Saddam from power. There has been no change in the Iranian stance. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari was giving an exclusive interview to the "*JANG* Forum" with *JANG* representative Ershad Ahmad Haqqani and Qodrattollah Chaudhari. Another member of the Iranian parliamentary delegation, Mehdi Shamlu, the Iranian consul general at Lahore, Mr Mohammad Shamlu, the Iranian consul general at Lahore, Mr Mohammad Hassan Shirazi, and the head of the Iranian cultural center at Lahore were also present at the forum. Translation was done by Mohammad Rizvi.

His Excellency Hadi Ghaffari said: Iran has so far not used its full force and manpower in the war. Iran can fight the war with a huge and very strong force. Hadi Ghaffari went on: At first, the war was imposed on Iran and we did not accept it. Now efforts are being made to impose peace on us and we will not accept it. When asked to be more explicit and explain how the war could come to an early end, he said: There are various ways. One may be for the help which the small and big powers are giving to President Saddam Husayn to be stopped forthwith. This is not a difficult condition. We see these possibilities taking a practical shape even now.

Responding to another question, he said: It is wrong to say that nothing was being done in Iran for the poor. He said: It was true that we had not done much in this respect, but the reason was the war. He added: However, the job of looking after their needs was continuing. Explaining why no land reforms had come about in Iran he said: In Islamic jurisprudence, there were many views on this subject. There were differences on the limit to be imposed on the ownership of property. Therefore we are now looking into this problem.

Explaining why the first president of Iran, Mehdi Bazargan, was declared ineligible to participate in the recent presidential elections, he said: When Bazargan was given the chance to rule, he proved that he was incapable of doing so. Moreover, he could not fulfillll all of the conditions laid down in the Iranian Constitution. He did not agree that if Bazargan had been given the chance, it would have added proof that there was complete democracy in Iran. He said: Even if Bazargan had been allowed to participate in the elections, he would have lost and people would have rejected him. He did not agree that there was a religious dictatorship in Iran.

Responding to a question concerning denationalizing some banks and returning foreign trade to the private sector, he said: Our basic policy is to promote the aims of the revolution. We always take action in light of the Islamic tenets. We do not care what others think of us. He denied that there was no freedom of expression in Iran. He said: There is full freedom of criticism on all aspects of life and the entire proceedings of the legislative assembly are shown on television.

It must be remembered that Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari has been a direct participant in the entire struggle for the revolution and some parts of his body have also suffered in the struggle. He represents a Tehran contituency in the Majlis. Mr Mehdi Shamlu was elected from Malayer. He is also a member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs in the Majlis.

Commentary on Gorbachev's 'Unjustified Accusations'
GF121606 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 10 Feb 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Gorbachev's Unjustified Accusations"]

[Text] In a interview with a French newspaper, the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has urged the European countries to bring pressure to bear on the United States and Pakistan on the question of solving the Afghanistan problem. According to his words, the Soviet Union would withdraw its forces from Afghanistan, but the attitude of the United States and Pakistan was an obstacle. He said that instead of resolving the Afghanistan problem both countries want to prolong the matter.

This statement by Mr Gorbachev could be part of his counter-propaganda campaign, which he urgently needs. The Soviet Union is now feeling the brunt of the protests lodged against it, in particular in the General Assembly, where every year resolutions against this country are passed by a huge majority. These resolutions demand the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. It is quite possible that these accusations may not be totally unjustified as far as the United States is concerned, because although they are rivals to each other on the global level, they are compelled to co-exist. However, this charge is totally unjustified as far as Pakistan is concerned. Pakistan has used every forum, whether it be that of the UN General Assembly, the ICO or the Nonaligned Movement, to demand the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan so that the 3 million Afghans who have taken refuge in Pakistan may go back to their homes safely and honorably. Whatever relations and transactions are going on between the Soviet Union and the United States, they are between the two superpowers to impose their hegemony over the world. The United States has supported every Israeli aggressive, hostile, and sabotaging move unconditionally. Since the United States has made a practice of this support, the only party that gains by it is the Soviet Union. This makes one think that perhaps there is an understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States along these lines and that the United States is prepared to let the Soviet Union also have its share of influence in the Middle East or in other words, in Islamic countries. This conjecture is strengthened by the recent attitude of the United States in its dealing with the incidence of the civil war in PDRY. The United States did nothing to take advantage of this quandary and the fix in which the Soviet Union had fallen. This has made the Soviet Union tighten its grip again over the country. If there does exist an understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States, it could have been on the question of American policy on Afghanistan, also to allow the Soviet Union to strengthen its grip on Afghanistan while showing to the world that it has been bogged down there.

In any case, as far as Pakistan is concerned, Mr Gorbachev's accusation is totally baseless, because Pakistan is putting no obstacle in the way of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Cabinet Session Discusses Contacts in Kuwait

LD121143 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1046 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] At the Cabinet session today international political developments and issues, in particular the recent victories of the combatants of Islam on the battlefronts, were discussed and views exchanged on a report presented by our country's special presidential envoy to Kuwait. According to the report, the amir of Kuwait has stated, in response to a message from our country's president, that Kuwait will not place its resources — its air, land, or naval resources, at the disposal of foreign forces.

A Central News Unit correspondent reports that at the Cabinet session it was announced that during the 10 Days of Dawn the government handed over 22 million square miles of land to 70,000 families to build houses in 220 towns in the country. At today's session the committee dealing with the work practices of government employees also informed the ministers about its report and it was decided that government resolutions regarding assistance to government employees be announced after final results have been determined.

At the end of the session, the prime minister, in an interview with our correspondent, answered questions regarding the recent victories of the combatants of Islam in the "Val-Fajr" operations and the issue of Bubiyan Island. We now draw your attention to it:

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, [words indistinct] about the recent military operations of the combatants of Islam and the victories they have achieved on the battlefronts, could you give us your views on the future of the war and [words indistinct]?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Those operations to which you refer are among the effective ones. [Words indistinct] our forces have been able to achieve notable successes, including the liberation of Al-Faw and some sections of the most sensitive regions of Iraq through which it has access to the Persian Gulf. As a result of these operations we have reached the vicinity of Khur 'Abdallah which is close to Bubiyan Island. We plan [words indistinct] to be a serious warning to the Saddam regime [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] As you noted, the Khur 'Abdallah is close to Bubiyan Island. (?The Kuwaiti Government might place the island at Iraq's disposal) and that is why an envoy has gone to that country. Could you say what is going to happen and [words indistinct]?

[Musavi] The (?envoy's) report was given to the government. Contacts have been made and discussions held with the highest officials in Kuwait. The Kuwaiti officials have stated that Bubiyan Island and other Kuwaiti resources will not be placed at the disposal of anyone. We are happy about that, and we hope that Kuwait, as the esteemed president said in his speech yesterday, will follow the proper policy [words indistinct]. We are interested in Kuwait's independence and want to have friendly relations with all states in the Persian Gulf. Obviously, Kuwait can help in that matter by its policy and so become immune to the unwanted harm to which a country could naturally become exposed in times of war. [end recording]

Khamene'i Speaks on Phone With Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi

LD122144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tonight President Khamene'i held a telephone conversation with Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, and explained the developments of the imposed war and the progress of the army of Islam.

Also in a telephone conversation tonight with Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Mr Khamene'i exchanged views on the developments of the imposed war and also on the general situation in the region. In this discussion Mr Khamene'i condemned the presence of the U.S. Fleet in the vicinity of Libyan waters, stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the Gulf of Sidra to be an integral part of Libya. In this conversation, Mr al-Qadhdhafi congratulated Islam's troops on their victories and wished them success, expressing his full support for the recent operations by the Islamic combatants.

Khemene'i Reviews Revolution Committees, War

LD122232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The special ceremonies marking the 7th anniversary of the formation of the Islamic Revolution Committees, were staged this afternoon in the 7th Tir [28 June] Stadium in Tehran and were attended by the president of the state and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, the minister of the interior, and the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees. In these ceremonies the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees presented a report on the activities of this institution during the past 7 years in connection with its operations against counterrevolutionaries and drug smuggling.

Next, Khamene'i, explaining the sensitive role of the Islamic Revolution Committees in preserving the achievements of the Islamic revolution in the fragile conditions of the early days of the revolution, stated:

The Islamic Revolution Committees, during the most difficult and sensitive moments of this revolution, rushed forward to protect it just like a selfless trooper.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, in connection with the latest victories of the combatants in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations and the support given to Saddam by the superpowers, stated: The victory of the combatants in a sector of the battlefronts, has made the reactionaries of the region extremely worried — so much so that they are panicking. The chairman of the Supreme Defense added: Even though Saddam's regime claimed that it is independent and is fighting against Iran without relying on the superpowers, yet, fortunately, the U.S. Defense Department's communique, issued today, negated all the Iraqi regime's propaganda. In this communique, the U.S. Defense Department

expresses regret that due to meteriological disturbances it has not been able to use its satellites to the advantage of Iraq [as heard]. One can judge from this stance that this war has been staged by world arrogance against the Islamic revolution, and you, combatant youth, should know that every one of your blows against the enemy on the battlefronts of war is a blow against the U.S. regime. For this very reason we must strengthen the blows that we are inflicting on the enemy.

The president of the state, referring to the presence of American warships off Libya's shores and to Israel's act of terrorism in hijacking of the Syrian airliner [as heard], he stated: For centuries the chains restricting human beings have become heavier day by day, and the use of force and bullying has been accepted in today's world as a norm. Which small country in the world will be permitted to get its warship near the shores of the United States and tell the U.S. that it has no right to attack this warship? Yet the United States gives itself the right to place its warships along the shores of Libya and forbids Libya to attack them. Or Israel, which gives itself the right to embark on the hijacking of aircrafts and no one in this world protests about these acts. Today the world is in a state of great (?depression) and it is only the people of our country who refuse to be bullied and say that we shall not tolerate the use of force and aggression against ourselves and against any other meek nation in the world.

In conclusion, the president thanked the clergymen and expressed appreciation for their activities in the committees.

Velayati Sends Message to UN on Iraqi CW Use

LD130758 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a message to the U.N. secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Thursday deplored inaction of the U.N. vis-a-vis deployment of chemical weapons.

The message, referring to recent deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi forces against Iranian combatants, stressed that such an indifferent attitude by the U.N. will ultimately encourage usage and retaliation for such acts at an international level, specially in this region.

Of course, the message noted, the dreadful consequences of such retaliation is clear to all.

The message said that in case the U.N., and especially its secretary general, failed to propose and take an effective action to halt Iraqi chemical attacks, Iran will be forced to adopt a policy other than its previous one.

Referring to the April 25, 1985 statement of the U.N. Security Council condemning deployment of chemical weapons, the message said that only ten months after the statement the Baghdad regime deployed such weapons against Iranian forces.

Renewing its chemical attacks against Islamic combatants of Iran during the past two days, the Iraqi regime has martyred a number of Iranian forces, the message said.

Foreign Ministry Supports Libya Against U.S.

LD121815 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement on the renewed U.S. military exercises in the Gulf of Sidra. The statement, in part, reads: The imperialist United States continues its threats against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and has once again dispatch two aircraft carriers of the 6th. Fleet to carry out provocative military exercises off Libyan shores. This is taking place less than 2 weeks after the previous exercises of the 6th Fleet in that region ended. The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns these aggressive provocations by the United States against the fraternal state of Libya and once again proclaims its decisive backing for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against these threats.

Musavi Warns 'Reactionary' Arabs on Supporting Iraq

LD121604 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Wednesday warned those reactionary heads of Arab states not to mingle their fate with that of Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

In response to statements published recently by the reactionary Arab states and the Arab League in protest to the successful Iranian offensive, launched on Sunday, the prime minister said that if they had been really opposed to the war surely they could have voiced their opposition when Saddam Husayn launched his aggression against Iran.

In an interview with reporters at the end of a cabinet meet here Wednesday, the prime minister said that Kuwaiti officials have informed an Iranian delegation, dispatched to Kuwait Tuesday, that Kuwait would not hand over the Bubiyan Island to any forces.

Montazeri Speaks to Guests on Revolution, Region

GF100747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, foreign guests present for the 10 days of dawn celebrations, along with officers, sergeants, officials of the Air Force politico-ideological department, and the Islamic guidance minister, met his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday. In welcoming the guests, who have come to the Islamic Republic from various countries and in paying tribute to the initiative and selflessness of the Air Force in their collaboration with the revolution and for joining the ranks of the people, his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri explained the Koranic verse Al-'Asr.

Ayatollah Montazeri stressed that if man has faith in God and reaches near divine stature within himself, he will never experience feelings of being alone or weak. He added: The noble Iranian nation did not have any other objectives in bringing about its sacred revolution, except the freedom to speak the truth, to

tread the right path, to be independent of the East or West, and to administer the country using Islamic and Koranic guidelines. He persevered until he attained success. From the very first day, the great leader of the revolution did not have more than a handful of associates, but because he had faith in the righteousness of his work and his grand mission, and due to his near divinity bestowed on him by God — as was the case with Abraham, who was a nation in himself -- the imam also singlehandedly brought about a revolution and later invited the nation to follow the path of the truth and jihad until he was successful. Today this revolution is a model to others. It was a divine spark which was ignited in Qom and swept all over Iran and then spread over and influenced all the innocent and oppresssed areas of the world.

Addressing the foreign guests, he added: Wherever you are, brothers and sisters, you will be a nation unto yourselves if you seek the essence of your nature and cultivate self-confidence. You must endeavor to inform your people of the need to cultivate an Islamic identity and the self-confidence to succeed. You have seen that the likes of Sulayman Khatir, Raghib-Harb, and ('Izzuddin Ghassam) have made a mark in their respective countries' history. Each symbolizes a trend which brought awareness and activity to their own nations.

Speaking on the solid faith and self-confidence of the Lebanese Muslims and those in Afghanistan and other parts of the world, Ayatollah Montazeri asserted: It is this self-confidence that has brought the United States, Italy, France, and Israel in Lebanon, or the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, to their knees, and has forced the United States and its accomplices to flee from Lebanon like a goat. Why should 1 billion Muslims, who are endowed with a wealth of spiritual and material strength, be shackled thus by the East or West merely due to the weak and invertebrate rulers and the servility of some others?

In conclusion, His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri quoted from various texts and said that according to these traditional sayings, Muslims will finally triumph over Zionism and Jews and the Muslims' original Qiblah [Islamic reference to Jerusalem] will be returned to the Muslims. It seems that the promised day is not too far. In view of the alertness and activity manifested in Muslims of various countries, it seems hopeful that soon the preliminaries of a movement, a general resurgence under the banner of Islam and the Koran, will materialize in the form of a mammoth march of some millions of Arabs, Iranians, Turks, and others toward dear Jerusalem.

Condemning the obsequiousness that has appeared in some Palestinian ranks, he emphasized: I am positive that with their association with King Husayn, the murderer of Palestinians and with Saddam who ignited the imposed war, not an inch of land will be given to the Palestinians. Those who have been subservient to this corrupt policy have only lost their own prestige and have made the Palestinian nation more homeless. What has been taken by force must be retrieved by force.

Deputy Minister Denies Reports of 'Sabotage' Squads

LD130648 Tehran IRNA in English 0640 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Allegations on Iran Having Formed Irregular War Squads Denied" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — Iran categorically denied reports alleging it of having formed irregular war squads for sabotage activities in countries of the region.

The deputy ershad-e Islami [Islamic Guidance] minister, Sabah Zanganeh, speaking in a press conference here Wednesday referred to such allegations as "pure fabrications" and "plots of imperialism against the Islamic revolution of Iran".

He further told reporters that publication and distribution of such so-called documents was the work of the U.S. central intelligence organization to mar relations of the Arab countries of the region with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Zanganeh added that this was the latest in the chain of the U.S. plots against the Islamic Revolution of Iran since its victory in 1979. This time the U.S. by forging a document has attributed that Iran has formed guerrilla squads in foreign countries for sabotage and terrorist activities.

"By doing so", he added, "the U.S. attempts to hold Iran responsible for such actions". In this fabricated document it has been claimed that a person named Mir Hashem under instructions of Imam Khomeyni and with the help of the Ershad-e Islami Ministry has been training martyrdom-seeking volunteers to be dispatched to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on sabotage missions.

The reason behind such actions, he stressed, on the one hand was to make countries of the region to distrust the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on the other hand to cover up U.S. terrorist activities.

He further displayed the so-called documents and explained all the reasons for its falsity which he said proved inadequacy of the forgers.

Minister Urges Visitors To Work for Muslim Freedom

LD120953 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Minister of Ershad-e Eslami [Islamic Guidance] Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohamed Khatami here Tuesday called on the foreign guests who took part in ceremonies marking the 7th anniversary of the Islamic revolution, to warn their people about plots hatched by the superpowers.

The minister, speaking at the conclusion of the ceremonies at Tehran's Laleh Hotel, stressed that it was the responsibility of the guests to encourage their people to strive for the liberation and independence of all Muslims.

Another speaker, Chief Justice Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, referred to recent victories acheived by Iranian combatants in battlefields and expressed hope that it would lead to the final triumph.

In addition to foreign guests the closing ceremony was attended by a group of officials and theologians.

Further Reportage on Libyan Secretary's Visit

Meets With Velayati

LD121322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The second round of talks of e diplomatic military committees of Iran and Libya was held this morning, chaired by Foreign Minister Velayati and by Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah [Libyan secretary of agrarian reform and land reclamation].

While expressing his pleasure at participating in the 11 February anniversary ceremonies at Azadi Square, Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah said: Relations between Iran and Libya have reached a stage where practical ways of implementing the agreements that we have reached should be given higher priority.

During the session, the two sides reviewed the recent American military exercise in the waters near Libyan shores and also the plot hatched by imperialilst and reactionary countries to lower oil prices. The Libyan side said: We assure you that our forces are fully prepared to stand up to America. Any action by America will be confronted with steadfast defense by the Libyan people.

While expressing pleasure at the progress made in the relations between the two countries, Velayati said: The two sides should use all their power to implement the agreements reached, and coordinate their facilities to confront enemies and deal with oil and other issues.

Received by Musavi

LD122023 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12 IRNA — Libya's special envoy and member of the Revolution Command Council Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah met and conferred with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Wednesday.

During the meeting 'Umar Durdah said that Iran's ongoing military move would endanger the imperialists interests in the region.

Durdah (?stressed) on [words indistinct] struggle against the U.S. and its allies in the world. He further reiterated Libya's support for the Islamic Republic's righteous stances.

Prime Minister Musavi said the Iranian nation has all along supported the country's officials in upholding the 7-year-old Islamic revolution. He termed this commitment as a 'powerful point' of the revolution.

Musavi also said that the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) has so far played a significant role in favor of Iran in the war.

'Umar Durdah heading a political-military delegation arrived here Monday.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Envoys Visit 'Val-Fajr' Camp Site

LD122128 Tehran IRNA in English 2057 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 13, IRNA — Envoys of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Tehran, met and conferred with Minister of Revolutionary Guards Corps M. Rafiq Dust today in a camp by the Val-Fajr-8 war operation site.

Libyan envoys also were acquainted with the latest victories of the Islamic combatants.

They supported the Iranian position in her just struggle against aggressive regime of Iraq.

Envoy Conveys Invitation for Musavi To Visit Algeria

LD091730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] The Algerian ambassador to Iran met and conferred with the prime minister's political deputy this morning.

During the meeting, while stressing the expansion of relations between the two brother Muslim countries and political cooperation in the international and economic fields, the Algerian ambassador invited Prime Minister Musavi to visit Algeria on behalf of his country's prime minister.

Kuwaiti Amir, Foreign Minister Receive Lavasani

LD121326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Lavasani, the special envoy of our country's president met the amir of Kuwait yesterday afternoon immediately after his arrival in that country.

During the meeting a message from President Khamene'i was presented to the amir of Kuwait.

Lavasani also met and conferred with the Kuwait foreign minister.

Deputy Minister, Bangladesh's Chowdhury Discuss War

LD122033 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Deputy Minister of Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Lari met and conferred in Dhaka Wednesday with Bangladeshi Minister of Foreign Affairs Humayun Rashid Chowdhury.

In the meeting, Rashid Chowdhury emphasised on the need to strengthen and expand relations between the two countries.

The Bangladeshi minister also remarked that Bangladesh believes Saddam started the war against Iran which it was not

incapable of winning and brought him no benefit.

Chowdhury further said that the Islamic Republic's position is correct and that other countries now accept this fact.

Hoj. Lari said that Saddam has repeatedly demonstrated his regime's contempt for international law, by routinely violating them.

The minister furthermore said that the Iraqi ruler has no respect for Islamic law either and that the Iranian nation has absolutely no confidence in him.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, has no covetous eyes on the Iraqi soil or any other country.

On the ongoing visit of Bangladesh's minister of trade to Iran, Hoj. Lari expressed hope that once the Bangladeshi parliamentary assembly has been formed would travel to Iran to exchange views with Islamic Republic Majlis deputies. [Sentence as received]

Local Oil Experts Repair Khuzestan Drilling Rig

LD121328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Petroleum Ministry has announced that the Khuzestan oil drilling rig No 42 which underwent repair work became operational yesterday at a ceremony attended by members of the board of directors of the National Oil Company. This is one of several drilling rigs that has been put to work by the committed workers and experts of the Petroleum Ministry's National Drilling Company since the victory of the revolution and the closing down of foreign drilling companies in Iran. This is yet another effective step toward breaking the international monopoly of drilling operations which is dominated by America and France.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Al-Faw Situation Updated

LD121150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Communique No 9 issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters 12 February]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. By the dawn and the 10 nights. O brave ummah of Islam, o Muslim nation of Iran, your million-strong presence on the scene and the self-sacrifices of your brave offspring on the fronts have created victories and amazed the people of the world and military analysts. Yesterday and today, struggling to resist the triumphant attacks of the combatants of Islam, the Ba'thist enemy attempted heavy counteroffensives, which were repelled. During these operations, 50 defeated Ba'thist troops were captured.

Enemy aerial activities were also foiled today, with four more enemy planes being shot down, bringing the total since the start of the "Val-Fajr-8" operation to 14. Meanwhile, our fast-flying Air Force pilots and Army aviation eagles attacked enemy positions and armored units, dealing effective blows to the enemy. They all returned safely to their bases.

O Muslim and heroic nation of Iran. Thanks to the triumphant "Val-Fajr-8" operation and the deployment of the combatants of Islam in the Al-Faw sector and several kilometers along its shores, Khawr 'Abdallah, which had been Iraq's only communication route to the Persian Gulf, came under the control of the forces of Islam, and the remnants of the enemy's shattered navy in Umm Qasr was surrounded. Our cutting of the enemy's communications with the Persian Gulf will no doubt have important political and economic effects in the region, and will keep the countries in the region safe from the Ba'thist Aflakists. Islamic Iran is now in a position to observe military moves in the Persian Gulf, and will not allow the aggressor Iraq to reach Persian Gulf waters. God willing, with the efforts of the combatants of Islam, aerial activity by the Ba'thists in the Persian Gulf will be prevented.

O faithful and on-the-scene nation of Iran, your brave offspring are guarding the liberated lands, while the cursed Iraqi regime has brought Al-Faw and its oil installations — which belong to the Iraqi nation — under artillery and aerial bombardment to cover up its crimes in Abadan, Khorramshahr and Hoveyzeh. However, by shooting down enemy aircraft and silencing enemy artillery, the Islamic Republic of Iran is trying to preserve the remains of this great capital for the people of Iraq.

So far, 120 tanks and personnel carriers, 150 assorted enemy vehicles, 40 assorted antiaircraft guns, and 20 assorted engineering and road construction vehicles have been captured by the forces of Islam.

With God's help, victory is nigh.

[signed] Khatam al-Anbiya' headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Iraq Drops Chemical Bombs

LD121724 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 12 IRNA — Iraqi war planes dropped chemical bombs on Al-Fajr-8 operational region Wednesday.

According to IRNA correspondent in the region as a result of this inhuman act which is against all international conventions several combatants were injured.

Since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war the Iraqi forces have repeatedly deployed chemical weapons against Iranians in the battlefronts.

To repel Iran's Muslim combatants in Badr operations alone, the Iraqis fired 300-plus chemical bullets and U.S. chemical bullets and another 120 chemically-fed rockets each bearing 40 litres of chemical solution.

Iran's anti-chemical units are treating the wounded combatants.

Iraqi 26th Division HQ Captured

LD121748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Communique No 10 of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was issued tonight, containing the following:

O, Islamic ummah and martyr-nurturing people of Iran: Your warrior children are continuing to create epics and are continuing their advance. Today in pursuit of "Val-Fajr-8" the mighty Islamic combatants succeeded while advancing along the strategic Al-Faw-Umm Qasr highway, in liberating another section of enemy territory, in capturing the headquarters of the 26th Division of Iraq, and in liberating another section of the artificial salt lake. Today the Ba'thist enemy embarked on numerous counteroffensives, which were all repelled through the courage of the mightly Islamic combatants, especially of the fast-flying eagles of the army aviation.

In pursuit of the operations by the victorious Islamic combatants today and the repulsion of enemy counterattacks the following results have been achieved: the liberation of another 50 km of enemy territory in the Al-Faw region; the capture of 20 antiaircraft guns and 10 heavy vehicles and radar, and complex missile equipment on site No 3 of the Al-Faw region; the total destruction of 7 People's Army units; the total destruction of one mechanized battalion; the 65-percent destruction of two infantry battalions, and the 40-percent destruction of a tank battalion; the capture of tank farms and oil installations to the north and west of Al-Faw, which contain 60 huge oil reserves and pipelines carrying oil to (Ra's al-Bisha) and loading terminals.

Also today the heroic Air Force of Iran in several sorties bombarded the concentration centers of enemy forces, and during three sorties enemy planes mistakenly targeted Iraqi forces and inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi forces. The fast fliers of the Air Force and the air defense forces downed 4 more enemy aircraft, and with these the number of enemy aircraft downed from the start of "Val-Fajr-8" to date now totals 18. The feeble and defeated enemy, in order to compensate for its defeat and to boost the morale of the Ba'thist forces resorted to the use of chemical bombs, and the chemical warfare defense units immediately began to act to neutralize the effects.

Foreign Reporters To Be Invited

LD130722 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Ten Martyred, Many Injured in Iraqi Chemical Bombings" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, Feb. 13, IRNA — At least ten Iranian combatants have been martyred and many others injured in extensive Iraqi use of chemical weapons in the Val Fajr-8 operation region over the past two days.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters [WIH] told IRNA here Thursday that despite Iraqi denial, many Iranian forces have fallen victims to repeated enemy use of internationally banned chemical weapons after operation Val Fajr-8 was launched by Iran's Islamic combatants Sunday night.

He said some of the injured Iranians had been treated outpatiently, some others hospitalized and some despatched to Tehran for further treatment.

The WIH spokesman said Iran would invite foreign reporters to visit chemically wounded Iranian combatants at one of the Tehran hospitals soon in order for them to personally witness the evidence of the latest Iraqi war crime.

He further stated that the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic has (?also) called on the U.N. secretary general to [word indistinct] delegation to Iran to file a report on this open Iraqi breach of international conventions. The delegation has also been asked to visit chemically wounded Iranians, he said.

The spokesman said this desperate Iraqi move comes following Baghdad's bitter defeat in operation Val Fajr-8 and its loss of the Al-Faw port city but that it would in no way harm the determination of Iran's Islamic combatants.

Chemical Casualties Revealed

LD130824 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, Feb. 13, IRNA — Casualties of the recent Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons has reached 17, while unconfirmed reports say that 1500 other Islamic combatants have been injured.

Latest reports from Val-Fajr-8 operational theater indicate that the Iraqi regime in the past two days has been continuously shelling the area and attacking it with chemical weapons consisting of mustard and nerve gases and also cyanide derivatives.

The attacks have been carried out mainly over palm groves in the liberated port city of Al-Faw and on Al-Faw-Basra road as well as western bank of Arvand River.

Those afflicted are suffering from respiratory malfunctioning, sore eyes and skin burns. A number of them have been transferred to Ahvaz hospital and several others to Tehran.

Iraq CW Bombs Land on Own Troops

LD130844 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Iraq Renews Extensive Use of Chemical Weapons on Al-Faw-Basra Road — IRNA headline]

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — Iran's Islamic combatants are reportedly crushing enemy positions in the Val Fajr-8 operation region.

The Iraqi troops who are unable to resist Iran's Muslim fighters have resorted to intensive use of international banned chemical

weapons resulting in the wounding of a large group of Iran's Islamic combatants as well as a number of Iraqi forces in the region.

A military commander of the Val Fajr-8 operation who told this to IRNA, added that due to the ongoing heavy fighting and the closeness of the two sides positions, Iraqi planes have also dropped bombs on part of Iraqi troops positions.

The commander said that he hoped after achieving their objectives in the region of Al-Faw-Basra road, the Iranian combatants could take captive some of the chemically wounded Iraqi forces and treat them with their facilities prepared for this purpose behind the war fronts.

He said the Islamic Republic has equipped itself with extensive facilities to treat chemically injured combatants due to Iraq's repeated use of these weapons in the past.

Spokesman Denies Iran Use of CW

LD131043 Tehran IRNA in English 1031 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., Feb. 13, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters Thursday, strongly denied an Iraqi claim that Iranian forces had used chemical weapons in their latest operation, Val Fajr-8.

The spokesman told IRNA that the Islamic Republic has always insisted on observing of international conventions.

The Iraqi regime has not hesitated committing any crime in the past, either against innocent civilians or in the battlefields, the spokesman said adding that the Baghdad regime has repeatedly deployed chemical weapons.

He noted that reports of the U.N. and doctors treating the victims of the Iraqi chemical attacks both in Iran and abroad are indicative of the extensive Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons against Islamic combatants of Iran which were internationally condemned.

In the course of the Val Fajr-8 offensive, the Iraqi regime deployed chemical weapons against Iranian forces on Wednesday and Thursday [12-13 February], martyring and injuring a large number of them, the spokesman added.

Due to the fierceness of the fighting, closeness of the positions of the two sides and carelessness of the Iraqi pilots, a number of the chemical bombs have been dropped on Iraqi forces, injuring a number of them.

Therefore, the spokesman stressed, to attribute the deployment of chemical weapons to Iranian forces was "a mere lie" and is strongly denied.

Iran has so far proved its observance of international regulations and would not infringe them, the spokesman said, adding that by resorting to such allegations the Iraqi regime intended to find an excuse to intensify its inhumane acts in deploying various kinds of chemical weapons against Iranian forces and possibly against civilian people.

"We warn all international organizations and the world public opinion about these criminal and inhumane acts," the spokesman said.

The Iranian combatants are fully determined to defend the Islamic revolution of Iran and Iranian people and will no doubt give an appropriate answer to any crime committed by the Iraqi regime, the spokesman stressed.

Another Iraqi Aircraft Downed

LD130936 Tehran IRNA in English 0918 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was downed by the fire of the anti-aircraft artillery fire and fighter planes of the Islamic Republic in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater Thursday morning [13 February].

This is the 19th warplane downed by the Islamic Forces of Iran since Iran's thrust into Iraq Sunday night.

2 Aircraft, 1 Helicopter Downed

LD131056 Tehran IRNA in English 1051 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — With the downing of another two Iraqi warplanes in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater Thursday, the number of Iraqi warplanes downed since the start of the offensive last Sunday, amounted to 21.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi helicopter gunship was also downed by the Islamic combatants of Iran Thursday bringing the number of downed Iraqi helicopters during the offensive to two.

The Iraqi aircraft were downed by the fire of heavy anti-aircraft artillery and fighter planes of the Islamic combatants of Iran in the operational theater.

Newsmen Invited To Visit Al-Faw

LD131007 Tehran IRNA in English 0957 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters Thursday invited foreign reporters specially journalists in Islamic countries to travel to Iran to report and film the liberated Iraqi port city of Al-Faw.

The Iraqi regime has denied its defeat in Iran's new offensive and has so far refused to acknowledge liberation of its city by the Islamic combatants.

The Iranian forces in a warning to the Baghdad regime and its reactionary and oppressor supporters attacked Iraqi positions in the strategic port city of Al-Faw and caught the whole world and enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran by surprise, the headquarters said

Iraq Shells Abadan

LD121759 Tehran IRNA in English 1747 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 12, IRNA — The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was bombarded and shelled by Iraqi war planes and artillery fire Tuesday as a result of which 30 houses were destroyed, according to a communique published by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Wednesday.

In its Communique Number 2379, the command says that at least 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and [number indistinct] gun emplacements and observation posts of the enemy forcre destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday as their positions were shelled by Iranian forces.

The Joint Staff communique says that Iranian surface-to-air fire repulsed Iraqi warplanes violating the airspace of Sumar, Islamabad and Kanjan-Cham Tuesday.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions Tuesday set fire to parts of their positions and demolished several light and heavy vehicles of Iraqi forces.

Iraqi Troops Urged To Surrender

GF130850 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0805 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement broadcast in Arabic]

[Text] Attention, attention, attention: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O Iraqi soldiers, Iraqi officers, Iraqis of different ranks. Think a little of your fate. There lie the bodies of your colleagues covering the ground of the battle which the heroic Islamic combatants are fighting with total courage and ability. They have been felled by the fierce Islamic fire. Many of them have been identified. They are: Major Ahmad, director of administrative affairs; Captain Hannun from the 111th Brigade; Captain Ibrahim, commander of a regiment of the 111th Brigade; the commander of a commando company belonging to the 111th Brigade; and Lieutenant Colonel Karim, commander of the 2d regiment of the 111th Brigade.

O Iraqi soldiers and officers. The Islamic Republic of Iran, out of concern for you and the future of your families, sons, and children, sincerely calls on you to surrender to the Islamic Army which will receive you as dear and honored guests. In this way, you will secure your lives in this world and in the hereafter.

Have you not learned a lesson from the thousands of those among you who have been killed, wounded, or taken prisoner during the heroic battles fought by the heroes of the Islamic Republic? Hence, all you have to do is spare your blood and rebel against the Ba'thists. Know that the tyrant Saddam will certainly perish and that victory will come to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Hence, hasten to surrender and to salvation in this world and in the hereafter.

Forces Capable of New Offensive

LD131110 Tehran IRNA in English 1104 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — A high-ranking official of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) declared that the Islamic forces were able to start a new offensive against Iraq from any border point and inflict irrepairable damages.

The head of the Central Headquarters of IRGC, 'Ali Reza Afshar, speaking in a press conference here Wednesday said that launching the attack at a time while Karbala caravans are still being formed and dispatched to war fronts, proved that those posted in battle zones were not the only forces that Iran could use. The power of Iran, he told reporters, far exceeds what Iran's enemies perceive.

On the formation of Al-Quds Reserve Forces, he said that the move had made the neighbouring countries to reconsider their stance and realise that there is no hope for survival of Saddam.

Elaborating more on Al-Quds Reserve Forces, Afshar said that only 467 armies took part in maneuvers of the Ten-Day-Dawn ceremonies. These forces are to support the Iranian units in war fronts.

Volunteers Called On To Report

LD121203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Following the recent victories of the forces of Islam and the powerful exercises of the Jerusalem reserve divisions, the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has asked the volunteers of those divisions to refer to Guards Corps centers in various provinces to take part in the dispatch of the first Val-Fajr division in every province, to join the self-sacrificing combatants on the fronts.

6 Feb Explosions at Baghdad Garrison Noted

LD111616 Tehran IRNA in English 1524 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — A series of explosions rocked Al-Rashid garrison in Iraq last Thursday [6 February] following recent protests of the Iraqi Muslim soldiers against the present ruling regime in Iraq. Reliable sources, reporting the incident, said that the explosions took place around Al-Rashid garrison in the suburbs of Baghdad, and have caused deep concern among Iraqi officials. The sources added that a number of military personnel of the garrison have been arrested in connection with the explosion. Their fate is so far unknown.

Tehran Comments on 'Val-Fajr-8' Operations

GF122001 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is observing the results of the "Val-Fajr-8" operations with great concern. It finds itself, in one way

or another, concerned with the new developments in the arena of the battles. The "Val-Fajr" operations have proven that the Islamic forces are able to cross any fortified point inside the Iraqi territories. The Islamic heroes' assault of the fortifications in the western bank of Shatt al-'Arab, reaffirmed once again the flexibility of the military strength of the Islamic army against the defense tactics used by Saddam's regime to prevent the Islamic forces from crossing the Iraqi borders. The arrogance has relied heavily on these defence tactics believing in the impossibility of an Iranian attack on any border point.

Our Islamic forces chose the most difficult areas to cross in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations to prove to Saddam and his masters that our forces are able to reach the aggressors from any point regardless of how fortified or unapproachable they are. This is the most serious warning. Meanwhile, the results of the "Val-Fajr" operations shook the balance of power in this sensitive region of the Persian Gulf, since the United States was greatly depending on the ability of the Ba'thist regime to find a balance in power which would end the effects of the Islamic forces' military superiority.

The strategy of the arrogance in this war was based on supporting the Iraqi regime's war machine so that it can defend itself against the superiority of our brave forces. However, the "Val-Fajr-8" operations end the concept of the balance and reaffirm once again the superiority of the Islamic forces over the aggressors.

The problem faced by the United States in these operations does not only concern the aggressive war and its direct threats to the Iraqi regime, but they may have grave dimensions and bear results against the U.S. strategy not only in the Gulf region, but also in the Islamic world as a whole. This is what made the official spokesman of the U.S. State Department declare his country's fears about the results of these operations and urge the Islamic Republic to agree to a cease-fire and return to its previous positions.

The U.S. spokesman tried to relate his country's interests to the widening circle of the war which may cover other Gulf areas. Through this statement, the United States tried once again to induce imaginary fears into the Gulf countries and make them undertake maximum mobilization to confront the consequent war developments. This invitation comes in concomitance with the assurances made by Seyyed Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the Gulf countries — particularly the State of Kuwait, which was visited yesterday by an envoy carrying a message from the president of the Republic to this effect. This position did not leave room for the flagrant U.S. hypocricy to call on the Gulf countries to be in a state of alert. This is the policy adopted by the United States since the eruption of the war, to rob the resources of this region and to convert it into an arsenal of U.S. weapons.

The other goals behind the U.S. media's stress on the expansion of war in the Persian Gulf region is to make world public opinion believe that the United States is not worried about the fate of Saddam on the fate of Saddam or the fate of his regime. It is a fact that the "Val-Fajr-8" operations are a practical and firm warning which confirms the determination of the Islamic forces to topple the head of crime in Baghdad if his allies do not put him on trial. These battles will drive the nation toward the limit of challenge and victory. These battles will also strengthen Islamic revolutionaries everywhere. This is what the United States fears, and what it fears to announce. The "Val-Fajr-8" operations brought the good omen of victory to all of the Islamic powers that are involved in a merciless war against U.S. hegemony of the Islamic world.

Commentary on Implications of Al-Faw 'Liberation'

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[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Liberation of Al-Faw Is a Stern Warning to the Enemy"]

[Text] As you have heard, the able Islamic combatants have taken control of (Hawr al-'Abdallah) after the liberation of the important and strategic city of Al-Faw in Iraq. The port of Al-Faw, which is Iraq's only maritime link with the Persian Gulf other than Basra, was occupied by the Islamic combatants in a lightning operation at 2200 on Sunday night.

From the military point of view, the occupation of Al-Faw was an unexpected move which — due to its immense military and defense possibilities and the extensive measures taken by the Ba'thist party's forces to defend this port — has been widely reported in the international media. It is for this reason that the Iraqis issued communiques in the initial stages of the defeat. Through lies and fabrications, they tried in vain to divert public opinion, internally and externally, from the facts and to bolster the morale of their residual forces. However, this effort proved impotent, and following the occupation of 'Umm al-Rasa Island west of Khorramshahr, which was in fact the first step toward the conquest of Al-Faw port, Saddam was forced to admit the fact by announcing that the Iranian forces have attacked Iraq's 7th Division forces in some areas. This cowardly admission, which was far removed from the truth, came at a time when the valiant forces of Islam were advancing toward Al-Faw after the conquest of 'Umm al-Rasa and had dispersed the strong phalanxes of the Zionist Iraqi regime's defenses in a commendable and almost incredible manner in this region and had occupied the Al-Faw region.

With the occupation of this region, which resulted in the shattering of Iraq's defenses and the killing of more than 5,000 Ba'thist forces and the capturing of 1,200 Iraqis, the tottering Iraqi regime once again has been forced to face the bitter truth, at least in part, and to announce that Iranians have gained something of a foothold in Al-Faw region. In any case, the occupation of Al-Faw — regardless of the fact that once again it has proved the strength of the Islamic combatants in traversing the most difficult enemy terrain — has provided an appropriate upper hand for the Islamic forces.

Western news agencies, which are not prone to accepting simple facts, have been forced to openly acknowledge the dimensions of the importance of the victory of the Islamic combatants and to refer to the effects of this attack on the morale of the defeated Iraqi forces. In its news analysis, BBC said that Iran's latest attack was concentrated in the southern sectors of the front, was

a source of apprehension for the Iraqi leaders, and could have a deleterious effect on the Iraqi forces' morale. Similar remarks, although worded differently, have been uttered by Iraqi POW's.

Despite the wide scale of the Islamic forces' victory, to quote the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i, in a speech at the grand and unforgettable ceremonies of 11 February before millions of the Hezbollahi ummah of Tehran: "These operations were in practice a warning to the enemy and a step in the its chastisement which was carried out by a section of the Iranian Armed Forces." The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council spoke briefly in his address about the timing of the recent operations and their objectives. He stressed the fact that all nations, in particular the Arab states, should know that we do not covet Iraqi soil. We only wish to punish with our own hands the aggression and obduracy of Saddam's regime whose mischief-mongering has been ignored by the world. The president's utterances are significant from the point of view that part of the operations by the Islamic combatants have taken place in the vicinity of Kuwait's borders. Hence the states in the region should be informed of the objectives of the operations and warned against the Iraqi aggressor regime's propaganda of giving an Arab-Persian bias to the conflict in the region. In this regard, immediately after the commencement of the recent operations, a special emissary was sent by our president to Kuwait so that Iran's stance vis-a-vis its continuation of its policy of good-neighborliness with the states in the region could be explained to the Kuwaiti authorities.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council alluded to the shaky position of Saddam in light of the present war situation, warned against any assistance to Saddam by Kuwait, especially regarding the use of Kuwait's Bubiyan Island, and emphasized that despite our friendly relations with Kuwait, the Iranian forces will actively intervene to defend their stance if necessary. It is natural that Kuwait, as well as other neighboring littoral states in the Persian Gulf, should comprehend the Islamic Republic of Iran's intentions and the patient attitude of our nation against the mischief-mongering aggressor Saddam and his associates. This is in light of the historical treachery by imperialism through the fascist hands of Iraq during the past 5 years in the form of a destructive war against our oppressed people, so that they do not fall prey to the propagandistic atmosphere whipped up by the enemy.

We have reaffirmed our foreign policy of good-neighborliness in practice in the area and have exercised restraint and patience which will naturally continue in the future on the basis of Islamic and regional considerations and with the reciprocity of our neighbors. A new chapter sooner or later will be opened in the history of the region which will emerge from the present sensitive and historical circumstances. We will see how and on the basis of what criteria our neighbors will base their decisions to safeguard peace and security in the area. Whatever their modus operandi might be, it should not be without taking into account the firm determination of the heroic nation which was proved by its mammoth marches 2 days ago in the form of a seething tidal wave of greatness and grandeur on the streets of Tehran and in other cities of Iran. Once more the people have displayed their invincible strength to resist all plots and enemies of the Islamic revolution on the international level. Blessings on those who have attained the path of truth and are pursuing it!

Opposition Paper on Officials' Contacts With KGB

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[Text] During the visit to Tehran of the first deputy in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a foreign news publication wrote on the relations between Moscow and Tehran and said: Although there is nothing encouraging in relations between Tehran and Moscow, in other words between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic, the Soviet espionage and information organization (KGB) has maintained its relations with Mohammad Reyshahri', the minister of information and security of the Islamic Republic; Kho'iniha, prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic; and Fadhlollah Mohallati. These are the people who had completed their training in East Europe and in the Palestinian camps.

Foreign news reports with documentary proof from informed sources in the West say that Fadhalollah Mohallati, who is now in charge of the ideological section of the Guards Corps, along with Mohammed Musavi Kho'iniha and Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, who had been in training with the Soviet intelligence organization in the past, now are in charge of the terrorist activities of the Islamic Republic.